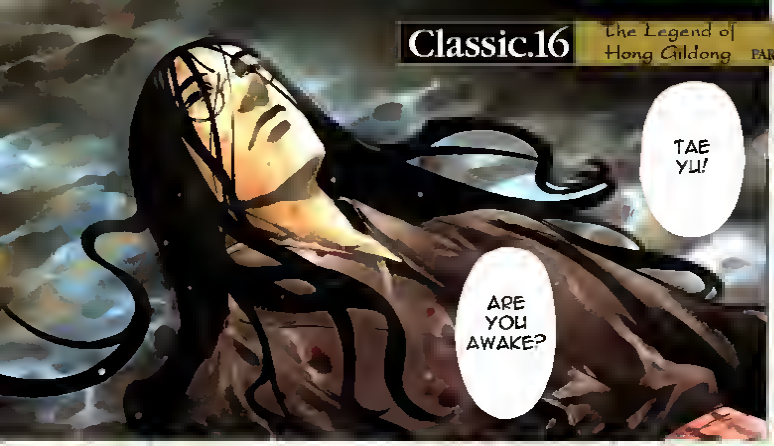
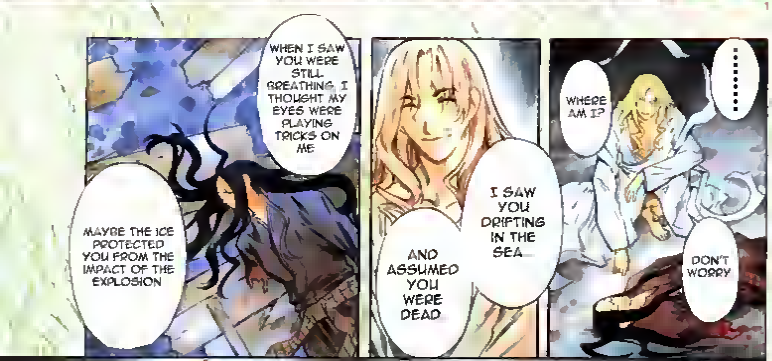

TAE YU!
ARE YOU AWAKE?


WHEN I SAW YOU WERE STILL BREATHING, I THOUGHT MY EYES WERE PLAYING TRICKS ON ME
MAYBE THE ICE PROTECTED YOU FROM THE IMPACT OF THE EXPLOSION
I SAW YOU DRIFTING IN THE SEA...
AND ASSUMED YOU WERE DEAD
WHERE AM I?
.....
DON'T WORRY

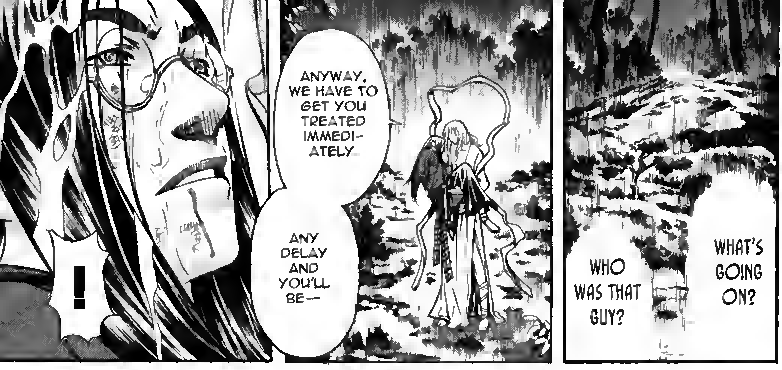
.....
WHERE IS THE CHIEF?
SHE'S...

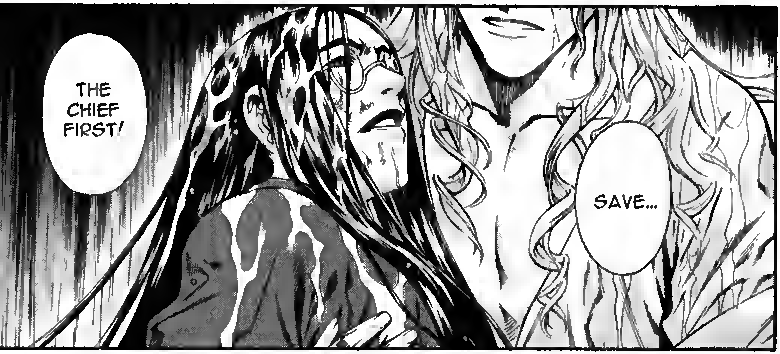
Classic.16 The Legend of Hong Gildong PART 8

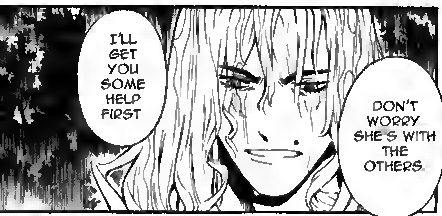
WHO ARE YOU?

I...
LOVE THE RAIN.
BUT THE RAIN DOESN'T WASH AWAY ALL THE WORLD'S FILTH.
ONLY DREAMERS THINK THAT.
ON THE CONTRARY IT ONLY OBSCURES THINGS.
LIKE A WALL OF THORNS COVERING THE EARTH AND SKY.
I ONLY ASKED YOU...
WHO YOU ARE.

I AM...
THE MESSEN-GER OF DEATH
WHAT HAPPENED, BAE RYONG?
NOTHING.


ANYWAY, WE HAVE TO GET YOU TREATED IMMEDI-ATELY.
ANY DELAY AND YOU'LL BE—
!
WHO WAS THAT GUY?
WHAT'S GOING ON?


THE CHIEF FIRST!
SAVE...


I'LL GET YOU SOME HELP FIRST
DON'T WORRY. SHE'S WITH THE OTHERS.

BAE RYONG!

I'M FINE. GO TO THE CHIEF RIGHT NOW!
WHY DID YOU LEAVE HER, BAE RYONG?

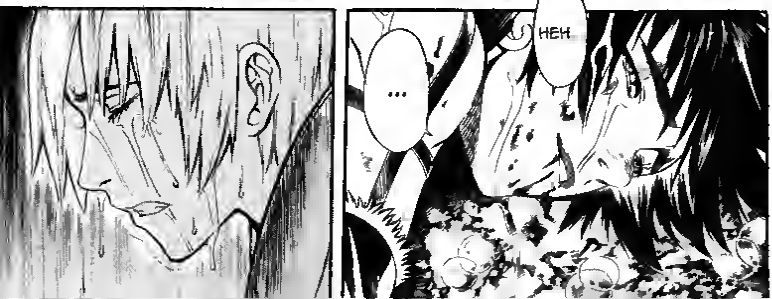
GO NOW, BAE RYONG!
ALTHOUGH SHE SEEMS STRONG, SHE'S ACTUALLY WEAKER THAN ANYONE ELSE!
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN? WE SWORE TO PROTECT HER UNTIL THE END!
DIDN'T YOU PROMISE TO HELP HER CREATE THE WORLD SHE DESIRES?
YOU'RE NOT...
THE ONLY ONE WHO LOVES HER!
BAE RYONG I'M COUNTING ON YOU
PLEASE GO...

IF ANYBODY IS AT FAULT HERE...
TAE YU...

DEFINITELY NOT US...
IT'S...

SU!
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, TAE YU?
THE WORLD IS TO BLAME

YOU CAN'T DIE!
SU, NO!

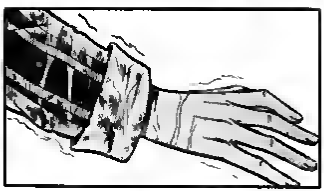

HEH
...

WHY ARE WE...
FIGHTING SUCH A MEANING-LESS BATTLE?
WHO WILL WIN?
BOTH SHOES COME FROM THE SAME MAGIC

WHY AM I BEING ATTACKED BY MY OWN SOLDIERS?
NOW I'M REALLY PISSED!
THANKS, SANDO!

I WANT YOU TO DIE NOW, MUNSU!
PLEASE DIE!

ARE YOU HAPPY NOW?
HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO TORMENT ME...
YOU'VE PUSHED ME TO THE LIMIT! ARE YOU SATISFIED NOW?
RELAX SANDO
YOU TOOK EVERY-THING FROM ME!
MY BELOVED SISTER!
AND MY DREAMS!
MY COM-RADES!
BEFORE YOU DIE?



C-CAUGHT YOU
SO MUCH SLAYING... THE PHANTOM SOLDIERS...

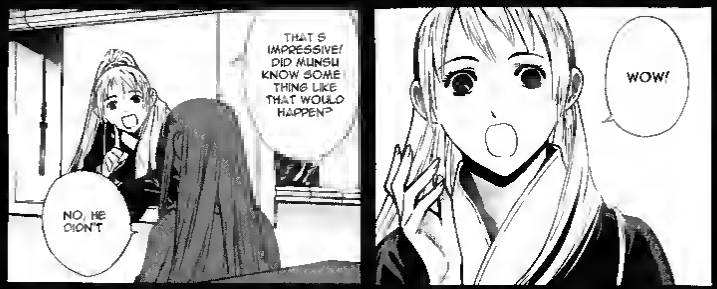
I'VE BEEN WONDERING KYE WOL HYANG
WHAT KIND OF MAN IS MUNSU?
13
WELL...
WHAT HE MOST RESEMBLES IS AN ACACIA TREE.
HE'S THE MAN MY SISTER LOVES, SO OF COURSE I WANT TO KNOW A LITTLE ABOUT HIM.
HUH? WHY ARE YOU SUDDENLY ASKING ME THAT?
TELL ME, IS HE TALL? HANDSOME? WHAT'S HIS PERSONALITY LIKE?
EH?
HMM, HOW SHOULD I EXPLAIN THIS?
I'LL TELL YOU ABOUT AN INCIDENT THAT OCCURRED IN A VILLAGE WHERE MUNSU AND I STAYED.
THERE WAS AN ENORMOUS OLD ACACIA TREE

THE VILLAGERS WANTED TO CHOP THAT TREE DOWN...
BECAUSE ITS LONG ROOTS WERE STUNTING THE GROWTH...
OF ALL THE TREES AND VEGETATION AROUND IT

BUT MUNSU WAS TOTALLY AGAINST IT.
HE DIDN'T SAY WHY...
BUT WHEN THE WOOD-CUTTERS CAME...
HE REFUSED TO LET THEM FELL THE TREE.

THE VILLAGERS...
DEEPLY RESENTED BOTH MUNSU AND THE TREE
IN THE END HIS PERSIS TENCE SAVED THE TREE
IN THE TIME THAT FOLLOWED NOTHING GREW WELL NEAR THAT ACACIA TREE

ONLY OUR VILLAGE WITH THE ACACIA TREE...
WAS SAVED.
AND THE NEIGHBORING VILLAGES WERE BURIED IN LAND-SLIDES.
HOWEVER, ONE DAY A HEAVY THUNDER-STORM CAUSED SECTIONS OF THE MOUNTAIN TO COLLAPSE.
THE ACACIA TREE'S LONG, STURDY ROOTS...
HELD THE MOUNTAIN-SIDE ABOVE THE VILLAGE IN PLACE.


THAT'S IMPRESSIVE! DID MUNSU KNOW SOMETHING LIKE THAT WOULD HAPPEN?
NO, HE DIDN'T
WOW!

AND SO, HE WAS VERY STUBBORN ABOUT IT.
HE BELIEVED THAT VERY STRONGLY.
HE JUST FELT THAT IT DOES NO GOOD TO JUDGE NATURE BY HUMAN STANDARDS.
'NO...'
AND HIS REPLY WAS,
I ASKED HIM IF HE WAS BOTHERED ABOUT BEING MISUNDERSTOOD BY OTHERS.
THE TRUTH WILL PREVAIL.'
AS LONG AS A MAN IS LIKE THAT ACACIA TREE AND STAYS STRONG AND FIRMLY ROOTED IN HIS BELIEFS.

HE'S NEVER BEEN AFFECTED BY PEOPLE'S OPINIONS OF HIM. HE DOES THINGS HIS OWN WAY.
WHICH MAKES HIM SEEM A BIT ECCENTRIC.
BUT HE'S THAT KIND OF MAN.
HA HA. WHAT DO YOU THINK? DOES HE SOUND STRANGE?

IS A TRUE REALIST.
...BUT HE, MORE THAN ANYONE,
THE LEADER... OF THOSE BANDITS... SO HURRY.
IT HASN'T... BEEN EASY... TO FINALLY CAPTURE.
HURRY UP...
AND... GET HER.

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
MOVE IT!
24
A PERSON LIKE YOU...
YOU...
WHO HAD LOVED ONES WAITING FOR THEIR RETURN!
THEY WERE GOOD MEN...
I'LL NEVER... FORGIVE YOU...
FOR KILLING SO MANY OF MY MEN!

グオオッ
HONG GIL-DONG!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
...
.....

HYAHH!
EEK!
WHOAA!

ARE YOU OK?
HONG GIL-DONG!
HONG GIL-DONG!
DON'T DO THIS ANYMORE, BAE RYONG!
STOP IT!
...
STOP!

I WON'T—
OK.

WAH!
BAE
BAE RYONG...

BAE RYONG!

HONG GIL-DONG.
RUN...
HURRY...
FLEE NOW.

FLEE, HONG GIL-DONG!
RUN... RUN NOW!

NOT WHEN...
YOU CAN'T DIE HERE!
THE WORLD YOU'VE LONGED FOR!
YOU'VE YET TO SEE...
LEAVE NOW!

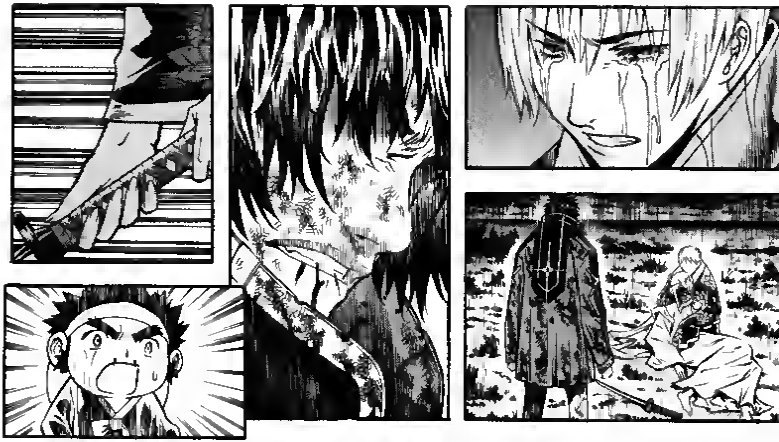
アアア

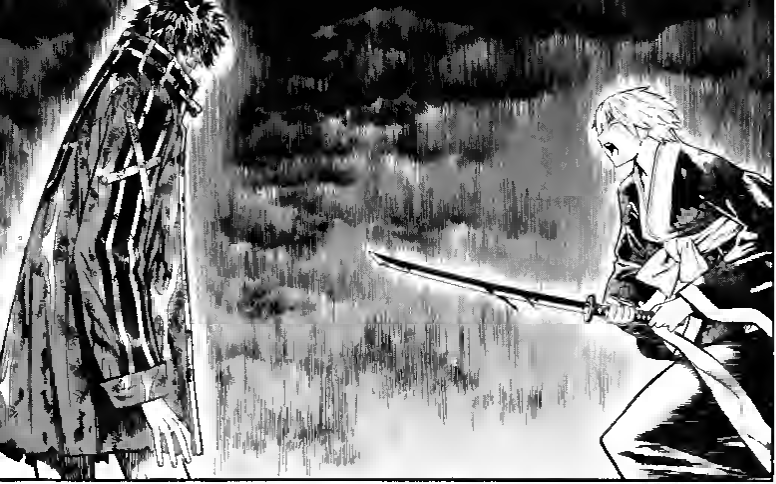
HE'S RIGHT.
34
MY MOTIVES WERE WRONG.
NO...
MAYBE...
NOT FOR THE WORLD...
YOU'D NEVER LEAVE ME?
DIDN'T YOU PROMISE...
I'D'VE FAILED THIS...

HOW CAN YOU BEAR TO LEAVE BEHIND SOMEONE YOU DEEPLY LOVE?
THAT'S REALLY WHY I WANTED TO CHANGE THE WORLD.
...BUT FOR MYSELF.
TO BE LEFT ALL ALONE AGAIN.
I DON'T WANT...

BAE RYONG!
BAE RYONG!
WHEN SOMEONE IS ON THE BRINK OF DEATH...
IT'S MORE MERCIFUL TO LET HIM DIE

WHY ARE YOU HESITATING?
COME AND GET ME NOW!





LET GO!
STOP! ARGH!
DON'T BE A FOOL!
I WON'T LET YOU DO IT!

LET GO
I WON'T LET MUNSU-SAMA...
DIE AT THE HANDS OF A VILLAIN LIKE YOU!
NEVER!
BANG JA
LET HER GO,
DIDN'T WE AGREE TO TAKE DOWN ALL THE BAD GUYS?
EVEN IF I DIE, I WON'T LET GO!
I'M YOUR ONE TRUE BANG JA!
MUNSU-SAMA, YOU'VE GONE TOO FAR!
HOW COULD YOU LEAVE ME WITH JUST A NOTE AND GO OFF TO FACE DEATH ALONE?

DIDN'T YOU WANT TO CREATE A WORLD...
WHERE THERE'S NO EVIL OR UNHAPPINESS?

ァアアアア
M-MA...

UM... ER
...
WHERE'S THE GOLD?
WHY ARE YOU ALONE?
WHAT'S GOING ON, DORSO?
ALL OF YOU...!

I COULDN'T GET THE GOLD.
BECAUSE JOY AND INSU BETRAYED US.
THIS WORLD...
DOESN'T GIVE ANYTHING TO THOSE WHO HAVE LOST THEIR WAY.

MUNSU...

KYE WOL HYANG
WAS SHE REALLY KILLED BY YOU?
PLEASE
TELL ME THE TRUTH

YES...
I KILLED HER.

WHY DID YOU DO IT?
WAHHH!
WHY?

WHY DID YOU KILL HER?
WHY? WAHHHH!
WHY DIDN'T YOU PROTECT HER?
SORRY...
I'M REALLY SORRY...

WHAT IS THIS?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, OSA-SAMA?
SHE'S THE LEADER OF THAT EVIL ORGANI-ZATION!
MANY OF MY CITIZENS DIED BECAUSE OF HER!
I CAN'T ALLOW IT TO END SO EASILY!
SHE HAS TO GET WHAT SHE DESERVES!
SHE SHOULD BE SENTENCED TO DEATH, ISN'T THAT RIGHT?

NO...
RIGHT FROM THE START THERE ARE OTHERS...
WHO DESERVE TO BE PUNISHED
ALL THIS...
HAPPENED...
BECAUSE I... CAUSED JUSHIN—

KYE WOL MYANG...
WE'LL MEET AGAIN SOON.
MUNSU-SAMA!
MUNSU-SAMA, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
COUGH!

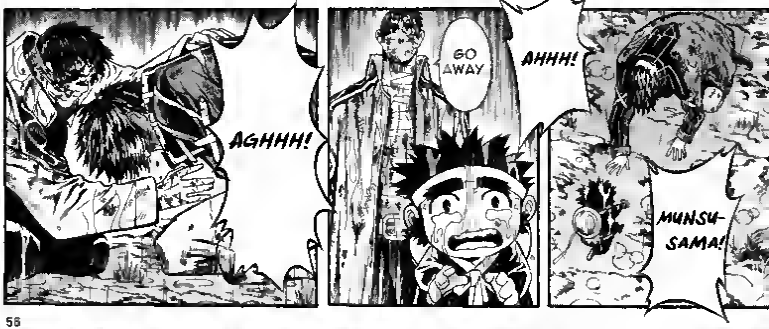
I CAN FINALLY JOIN YOU.
AT LAST...

MAMA!
HANG ON!
MAMA!
NOOO!

MUNSU
BEG YOU
I BEG
PLEASE..
LET..
YOU MUST..
LET EVERY-ONE
EVERY
BELIEVE...
I...

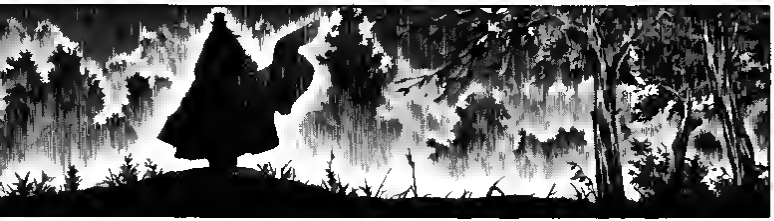
IN YOUR BELIEFS...
...YOU WILL STAND FIRM...
MAMA!
AGHH!
UUGH...
AHHH!
ピカ

AHHH!


AGHHH!
GO AWAY
AHHH!
MUNSU-SAMA!

IF THIS CONTINUES, HE'LL...
SHIT... HIS LUNGS ARE BADLY DAMAGED.

MMNSH



KYE WOL HYANG!
I'M HERE AGAIN!

HERE, FOR YOU.

NO! IF I GET DISCOVERED YOU'LL GET IN TROUBLE
WEL-COME.
WANT TO COME IN?

I'M HAPPY AS LONG AS I CAN SEE YOU.
I'LL JUST STAND HERE

ACTUALLY, I WAS SEEN BY THE GUARDS, BUT I USED THIS TO CONK THEM.
I EVEN HIT MY HEAD.
WHAT?
I HAD A TOUGH TIME CLIMBING THE WALL WITH IT
IT'S A SAPLING ONCE IT GROWS LARGER YOU CAN PLANT IT NEAR YOUR WINDOW
THIS IS...

YOU MUST...
LIVE HAPPILY EVER AFTER WITH YOUR MAN OK"
60
I WILL...
THANKS, BIG SISTER
HEY, CAN YOU CONTINUE THE STORY YOU STARTED LAST TIME"
OH, THAT TALE" WHERE DID I STOP?
NOW I REMEMBER IN THE END THE TWO SISTERS LEFT FOR RYUU-GUUJOU

ART OF SHIN ANGYO ONSHI

アート・オブ・新暗行御史

Illustration by Yang Kyung-Il

◀ This is the 2nd version of the draft used in the special appendix in the GX January 5 issue. Among the staff it was known as 'Sando's Nude Series' (laugh)

▶ This is the special appendix in GX July 4, the draft cover for Volume 8

To Enjoy *Shin Angyo Onshi* More Thoroughly.

Text by Youn In-Wan

No. 13 The Legend of Hong Gildong

Before I introduce this classic literary story, let me first clarify: Hong Gildong was, in fact, male (laughs).

Hong Gildong was born in Joseon's* capital city, Hanyang (present day Seoul). He was trained in martial arts and was a promising young man. However, because he was the illegitimate son of a high ranking official and a mistress, he was never acknowledged by his family, and he developed a deep hatred toward them.

Hong Gildong, with no real home and living a life of hardship, decided to travel around the country. While traveling, he was ambushed by bandits. After defeating them, he became their leader. As the chivalrous bandit, Hwalbindang, he became famous throughout the country for stealing from landlords and sharing the wealth with the poverty-stricken peasants.

Since powerful officials in the royal court were also victims of Hwalbindang, the king ordered his men to arrest Hong Gildong. They were unable to capture him for a long time, but eventually, by exploiting his relationship with his family, they were able to arrest him.

Many years later, Hong Gildong was released and became a wanderer again. He found his way to a scenic country called the Yuldo Kingdom, rescued a beautiful woman from demons, and subsequently became the king of the country. He tried to rule the kingdom according to the Hwalbindang vision of a 'fair society'.

Gildong is a fictitious character. In spite of this, I think the reason he is still deeply respected as a hero is that his quest to fight for the sake of poverty-stricken citizens is universally admired and applauded by all readers.

While doing the research for 'The Legend of Hong Gildong', I discovered something really fascinating. According to a recent thesis published by a reputable Korean classical literature professor, Hong Gildong, widely believed to have been fictitious, really did exist. The real Hong Gildong actually shares the same 'fair society' vision as the fictional Hong Gildong. Reportedly, he continued to defend the poor against injustice until the day he died, almost exactly like Che Guevara.

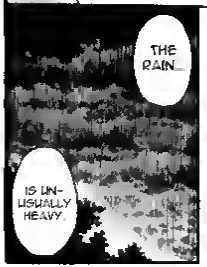
Another fact that intrigued me was that the third and last country Hong Gildong visited was supposedly Japan's Okinawa. So what did Hong Gildong do during his trip to Okinawa? All this will be revealed in the special interview at the end of this volume (laughs).

*Joseon = old name for Korea, 1392-1910

Classic.17 Falling Star

UGHH!
UH...

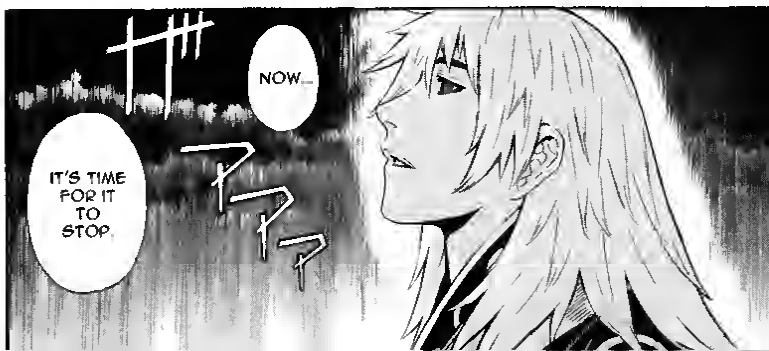
UGH!


THE RAIN...
IS UNUSUALLY HEAVY.

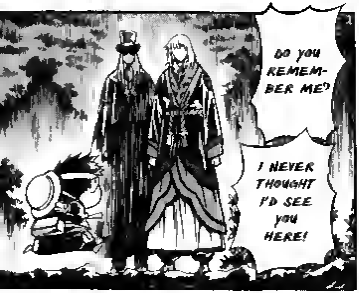
IS IT JUST MY IMAGINATION?
HE HAS AN AURA...

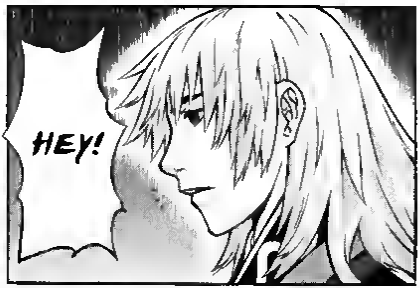
WHAT
THAT MAN

2


NOW...
IT'S TIME FOR IT TO STOP.

STAY HERE

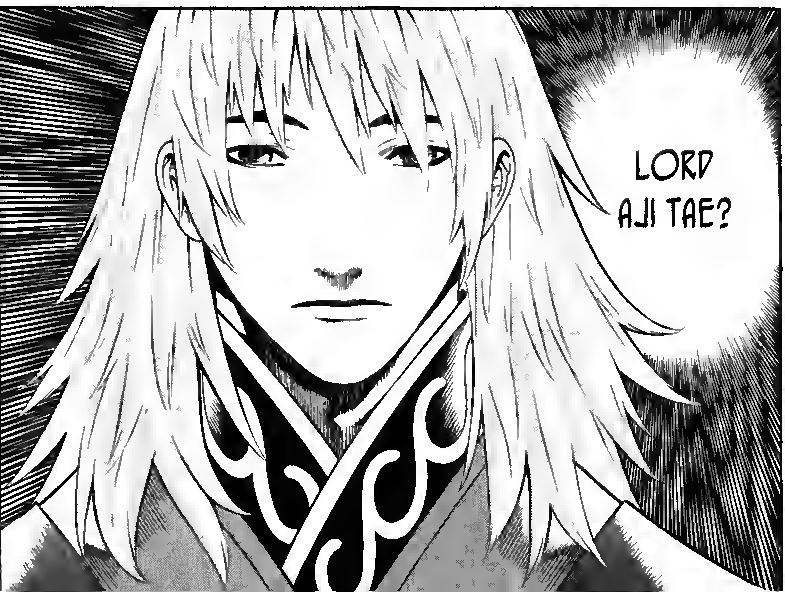

DO YOU REMEMBER ME?
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE YOU HERE!


HEY!

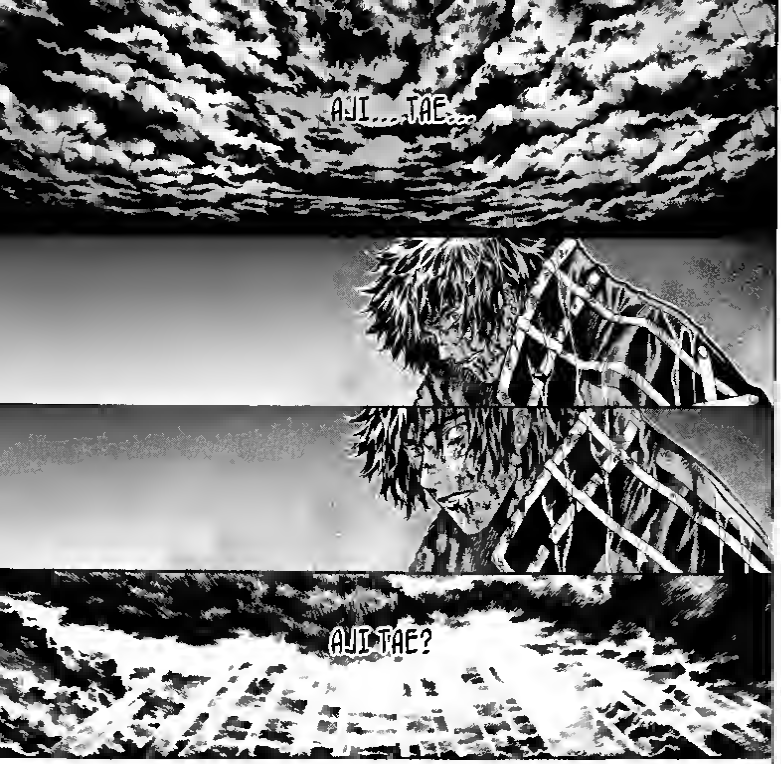
HE'S DYING!
BUT PLEASE, SAVE MUNSU-SAMA!
I'LL EXPLAIN WHAT HAPPENED LATER...
PLEASE!
I'M SURE YOU CAN SAVE HIM, TOO!
YOU SAVED SANDO BEFORE!

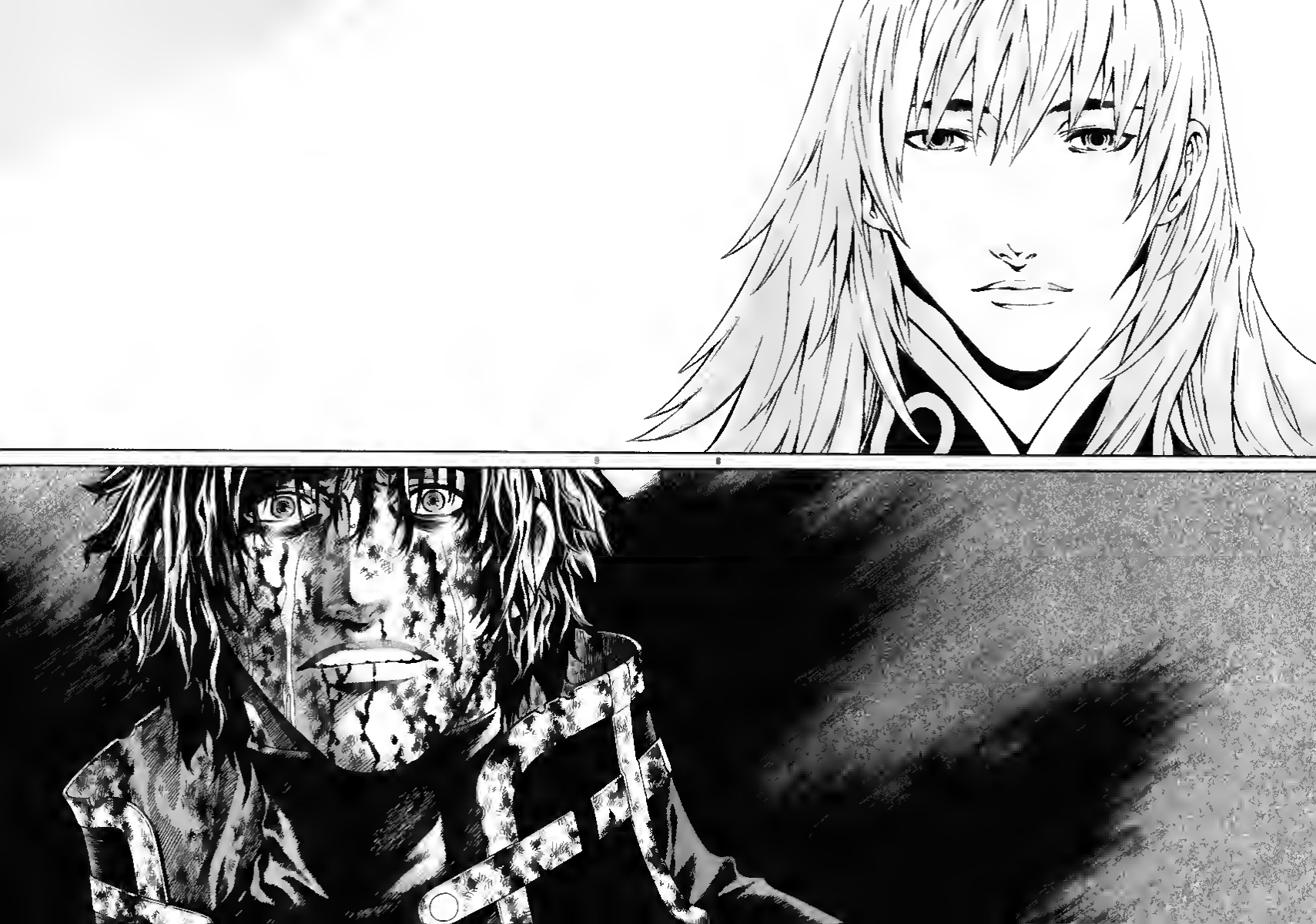
SORRY
I CAN'T SAVE HIM.
4
MAYBE YOU'RE HERE...
TO KILL HIM.
WHY ARE YOU HERE?
PLEASE LEAVE
I DON'T THINK HE SHOULD SEE YOU NOW
HE'S DYING, SO YOU DON'T NEED TO GO TO THE TROUBLE OF KILLING HIM
MOVE ASIDE, WON SUL.

PLEASE GO...
LORD AJI TAE!

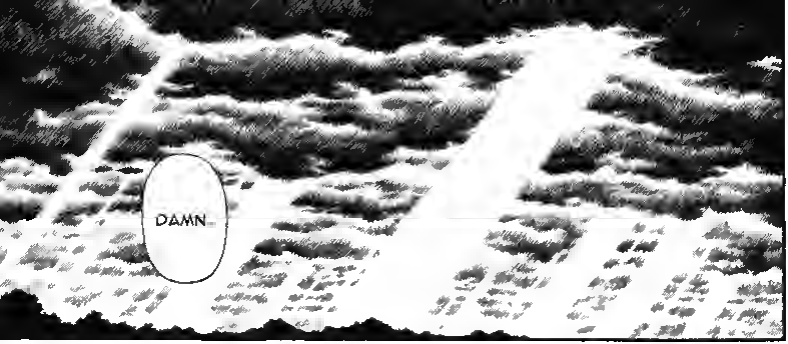

LORD AJI TAE?

Classic.17
Falling Star


AJI...TAE...
AJI TAE?

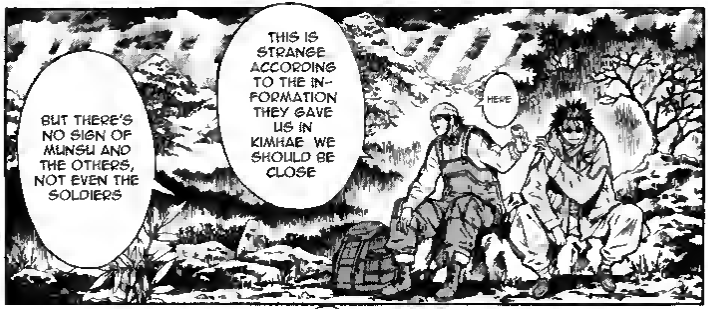


IT'S BEEN AGES...
MUNSU.


DAMN...

HAS THE WEATHER GONE NUTS, TOO?
IT WAS RAINING REALLY HARD A SECOND AGO.
HEY, YEONG SIL, HOW MUCH LONGER DO I HAVE TO WEAR THIS SHITTY THING?
THIS MEANS THE 'EXTREME WEATHER GEAR I INVENTED
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY 'ELIMINATE THE DAMP AND KEEP THE WARMTH?' I'M SWELTERING IN HERE!
CAN'T BE PROPERLY TESTED
AH, HOT, HOT!

I'M GOING TO DIE OF HEAT-STROKE! WHAT DID YOU LINE THIS THING WITH?
HANG IN THERE SO I CAN SEE HOW I NEED TO IMPROVE IT'
JUST A LITTLE LONGER, EUL PASO DION'T THAT OUTFIT KEEP YOU WARM AND DRY EVEN IN THE RAIN?
CAN'T YOU SEE STEAM COMING OUT?


BUT THERE'S NO SIGN OF MUNSU AND THE OTHERS, NOT EVEN THE SOLDIERS
THIS IS STRANGE ACCORDING TO THE IN-FORMATION THEY GAVE US IN KIMHAE WE SHOULD BE CLOSE
HEHE

URK, URK!
SOME-THING WRONG WITH THE WATER?

HUH? WHAT'S THE MATTER?
WERE THEY ALL KILLED BY THE HWALSIN-DANG?
HOT WATER!

I ONLY WANT TO FIND MISS HWANG! I COULDN'T CARE LESS ABOUT MUNSU!
DAMN, WHY AM I TRAVELING WITH SUCH A TROUBLESOME WEIRDO?

I HAVEN'T EVEN SLEPT WITH HER YET!
BUT IF SHE DIES NOW, SHE'LL BE GETTING OFF TOO EASY
I HATE MISS HWANG, TOO! SHE'S ALWAYS ORDERING ME AROUND...
ARE YOU REALLY CONCERNED ABOUT MISS HWANG?
DIDN'T YOU RUN OFF BECAUSE YOU WERE AFRAID OF THE HWALBINDANG?
OF COURSE NOT!
AND HAVE MY WAY WITH HER THAT'S WHY I BECAME HER BANG JA
I WAS PLANNING TO USE MY "", STUFF IT IN THAT ARROGANT WOMAN'S MOUTH
BUT SINCE MITO-SAMA ASKED--
ACTUALLY, I DON'T WANT TO BE HERE, EITHER...
I HAVE TO USE MY SPIRITED "" AND MAKE HER SUFFER!
SHE CAN'T DIE NOW!
OK, I GET IT LET'S GO EUL PASO

THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN DESTROY AJI TAE IS GENERAL MUNSU
AND MITO-SAMA MADE A GOOD POINT
HMPH. YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF NERVE
DIDN'T YOU USED TO BE AJI TAE'S LACKEY? WHERE DO YOU GET OFF SAYING THIS?
SO... WE HAVE TO FIND THE GENERAL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
IF HE IS DEFEATED BY THE HWALBINDANG, THE WORLD WILL FALL INTO THE HANDS OF AJI TAE

UH, WEREN'T YOU HIS LACKEY, TOO?
WE'RE DIFFER-ENT!
AH, I UNDER-STAND HOW YOU FEEL.
WHAT? YEONG SIL, STOP MOCKING ME!
THOSE WHO USED TO WORK FOR AJI TAE
SHARE THE SAME FEELINGS.

IN THE FACE OF TRUE TERROR
ONE WOULD RATHER SURRENDER THAN TRY TO OVER-COME IT.

UGHH ...

I'M NOT GOING TO GET INVOLVED WITH MUNSU OR AJI TAE EVER AGAIN!
IF I CAN JUST FIND MISS HWANG.
HMPH! I'LL BE SATIS-FIED...

WHAT'S THAT?
WAHH!
HELP HELP ME
HE'S FROM THE HWALBIN-DANG!
WAS THIS DONE BY GENERAL MUNSU?
HOW DID HE GET HURT SO BADLY?
MOVE ASIDE, EMI PAGI
WHERE'S THE REST OF YOUR GROUP?
FREEZE, MU-LETS
SERVES HIM RIGHT!
ARE ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? CAN YOU TALK?
WHAT HAP-PENED?
UM.. YES

THE HWALBIN-DANG IS ALMOST...
WIPED OUT.
18
THAT'S A BLESSING FROM GOD.
IF HE'S REALLY STILL ALIVE...
EXCEPT FOR DORSO.
YES, I CAN'T FEEL THEIR PRESENCE ANY-MORE.
DEAD?
WHAT ABOUT HIM?
AND GENERAL MUNSU--

19

AJI TAE!
AJI TAE!
YES...
IT'S ME.

DON'T GET SO EXCITED, MUNSU
YOUR BODY.
HAS REACHED ITS LIMIT

BROUGHT THIS ALL ON YOUR-SELF
YOU

IS REALLY AJI TAE?
THAT MAN...
THAT GUY IS AJI TAE...
WON SIL, WHAT'S GOING ON?
THE PERSON MUNSU-SAMA HATES MOST IN THE WORLD?

THAT REFINED-LOOKING MAN IS ACTUALLY AJI TAE?
HE'S THE ONE WHO CAUSED THE FALL OF JUSHIN.
THE MAN WHO IS RUMORED TO HAVE SUPERNATURAL POWERS?
I'M GOING TO KILL ALL OF YOU!
YOU BAS-TARDS!
WAHHH!

THEY WERE ALL KILLED BY YOU!
I WANT TO AVENGE THEM!
MY COM-RADES!

HAYAHH!

WAHHH!

PERISH.

WHAT?

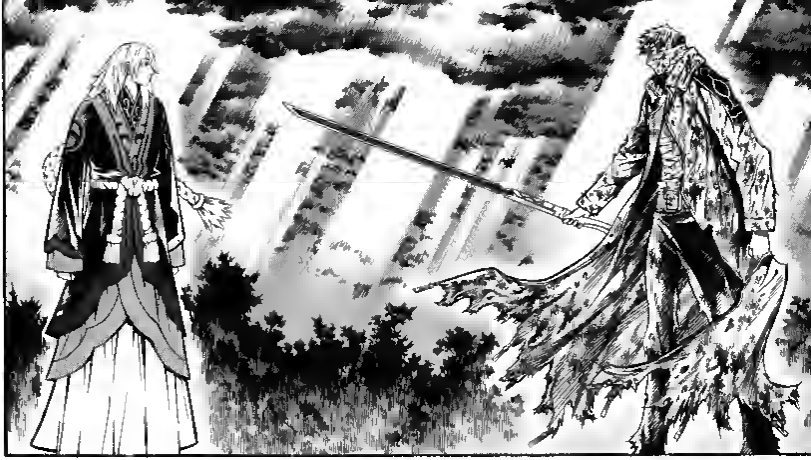
HEY, WHAT IS IT?

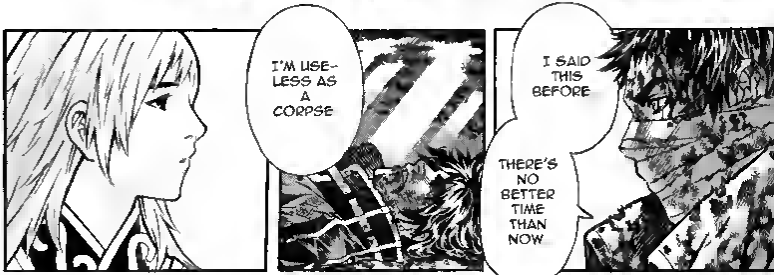
オーン

PORSO ?!
POR–
DON'T GRAB ME. IT HURTS!
O! WHAT HAPPENED?
OW! OUCH!

WITH AN OLD FRIEND
THIS IS A LONG-AWAITED REUNION

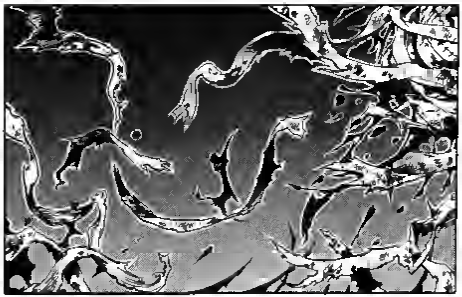
I WILL LET NO ONE
INTER-FERE

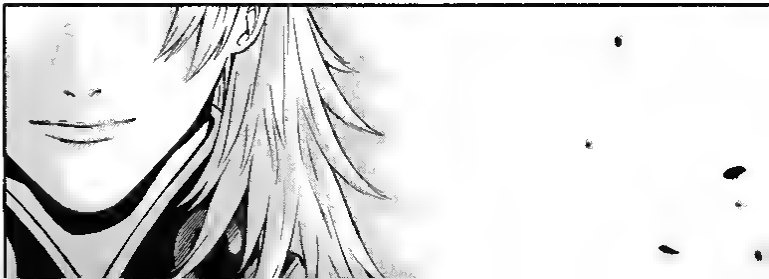



I'M USE-LESS AS A CORPSE
I SAID THIS BEFORE
THERE'S NO BETTER TIME THAN NOW

BUT... GIVEN THE CHOICE,
I'D PREFER FOR YOU TO DIE BEFORE ME.

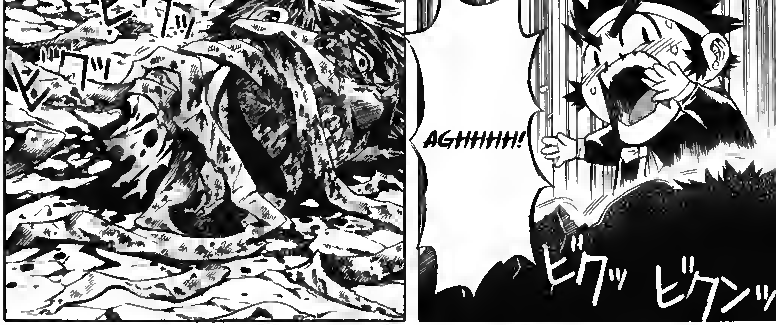
YOU'RE SAYING I DIDN'T LET YOU DIE PEACE-FULLY?
ALLOW ME TO SEND YOU TO HELL FIRST.
SINCE YOU DIDN'T LET ME DIE PEACE-FULLY...
33
VERY WELL.
WHY DON'T YOU JUST GO AHEAD AND DIE NOW?





WAHHHH!
AH...

HOW DID THAT HAPPEN?
H-HOW...
AHHHHH!
WAHH!
THAT MAN JUST LOOKED AT HIM...
AND WON SUL— WHAT EXACTLY HAPPENED?


AGHHHH!
ヒクッ ビクンッ

IT'S WHAT YOU WANTED.
BUT I STILL DON'T INTEND TO LET YOU DIE.

I'LL STOP HERE.
.....

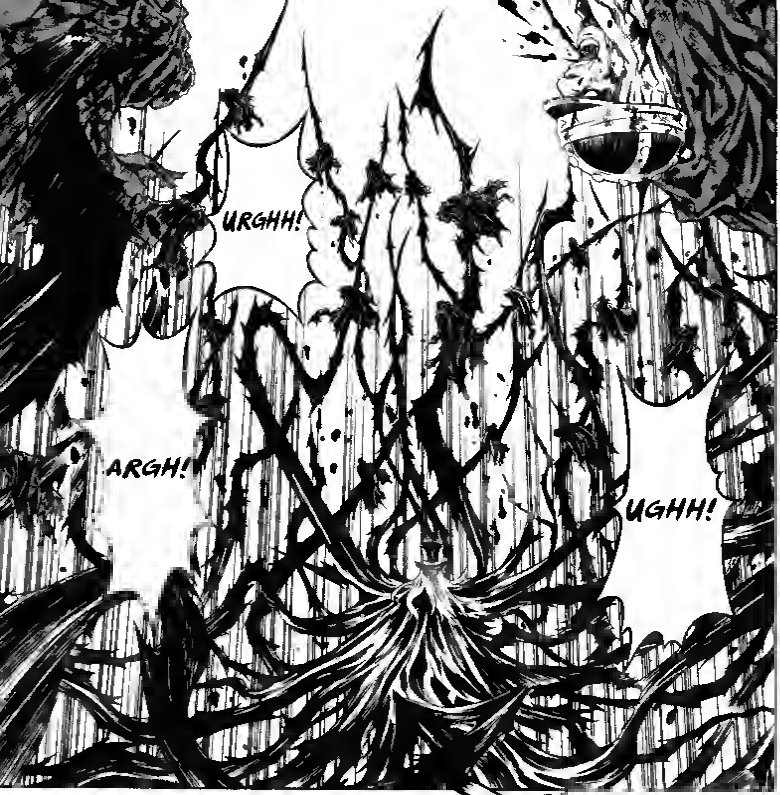
AS LONG AS EVEN A TINY PART OF YOUR SHELL EXISTS IN THIS WORLD. .

...
...YOU WILL STILL BE 'ALIVE'.
!

I LEAVE THE REST TO YOU
LOU

CERTAINLY

WAH!
ARGHH!


URGHH!
ARGH!
UGHH!

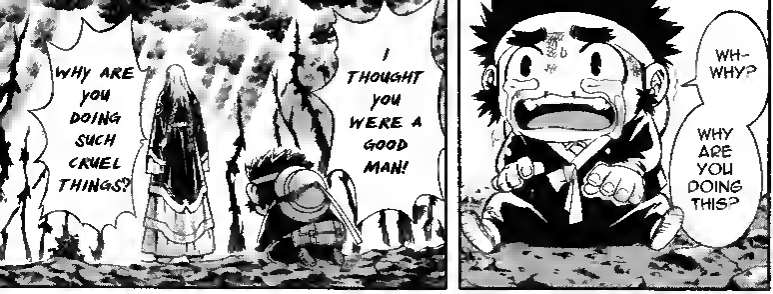
OH!
!

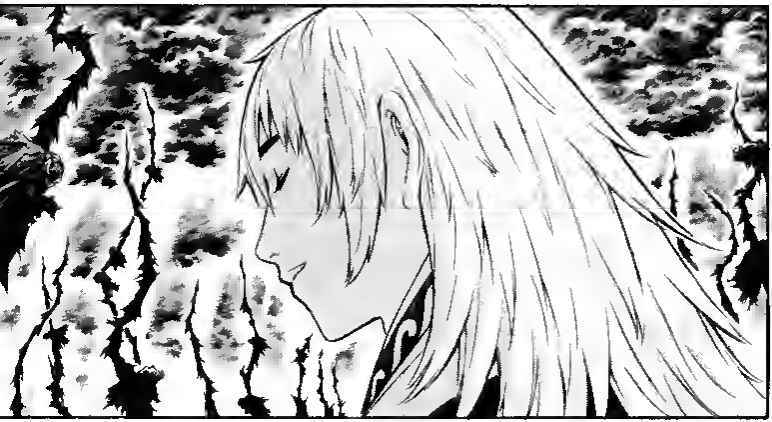
!!
ドカ
ナガナガ
ドン

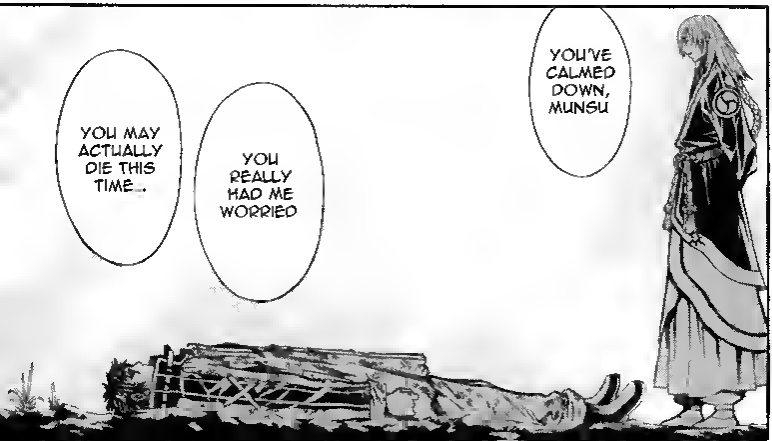
UH UH
UH...

FOR SAVING MIIRU-SAN BEFORE
BECAUSE OF YOU, HE'S BEEN DOING WELL

I NEED TO THANK YOU


WHY ARE YOU DOING SUCH CRUEL THINGS?
I THOUGHT YOU WERE A GOOD MAN!
WH-WHY?
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?




YOU'VE CALMED DOWN, MUNSU
YOU REALLY HAD ME WORRIED
YOU MAY ACTUALLY DIE THIS TIME...

SO FOR THE SAKE OF OUR OLD FRIENDSHIP..

I'LL BE SERIOUS.

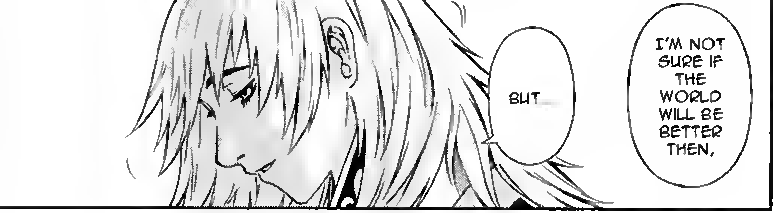
ASK ABOUT SOME THINGS.
TO EN-LIGHTEN YOU AND..
IS SIMPLE
THE REASON I'M HERE.

ALL VERY NICE.. IF IT COULD EVER HAPPEN
THEY DREAMED OF CREATING A FAIR SOCIETY.
THE HWALGIN-DANG'S IDEAL WAS GOOD.

BUT TRYING TO CHANGE THE WORLD BASED ON AN IDEAL IS JUST TOO NAIVE
WHAT A PITY IF SHE HAD MET ME FIRST, I MIGHT HAVE LENT HER A HAND
51
BECAUSE I
CAN CLEANSE MANKIND

NO MATTER HOW MEN STRUGGLE...
THEY CAN'T ESCAPE THE KARMA THAT BINDS THEM
MANKIND HAS DRAWN A LINE...
BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL
I WANT TO USE THE SAME APPROACH...
AND FREE MEN FROM KARMA AND RIGID THINKING.

I WANT TO RESIDE IN THE MINDS OF MEN.
AND ELIMINATE THEIR THOUGHTS ABOUT GOOD AND EVIL.
...SO THEY CAN BECOME JUST LIKE ME.


I'M NOT SURE IF THE WORLD WILL BE BETTER THEN,
BUT...

IT WILL DEFINITELY BE MORE INTEREST-ING
DON'T YOU AGREE, MUNSU?
THANKS FOR PROTECTING KIMHAE
IT WILL MAKE MY LIFE EASIER
THE MOMENT I HEARD THERE WAS ANOTHER PEACEFUL CITY,
WHERE MY TEACHINGS COULD BE APPLIED, I BECAME EXCITED

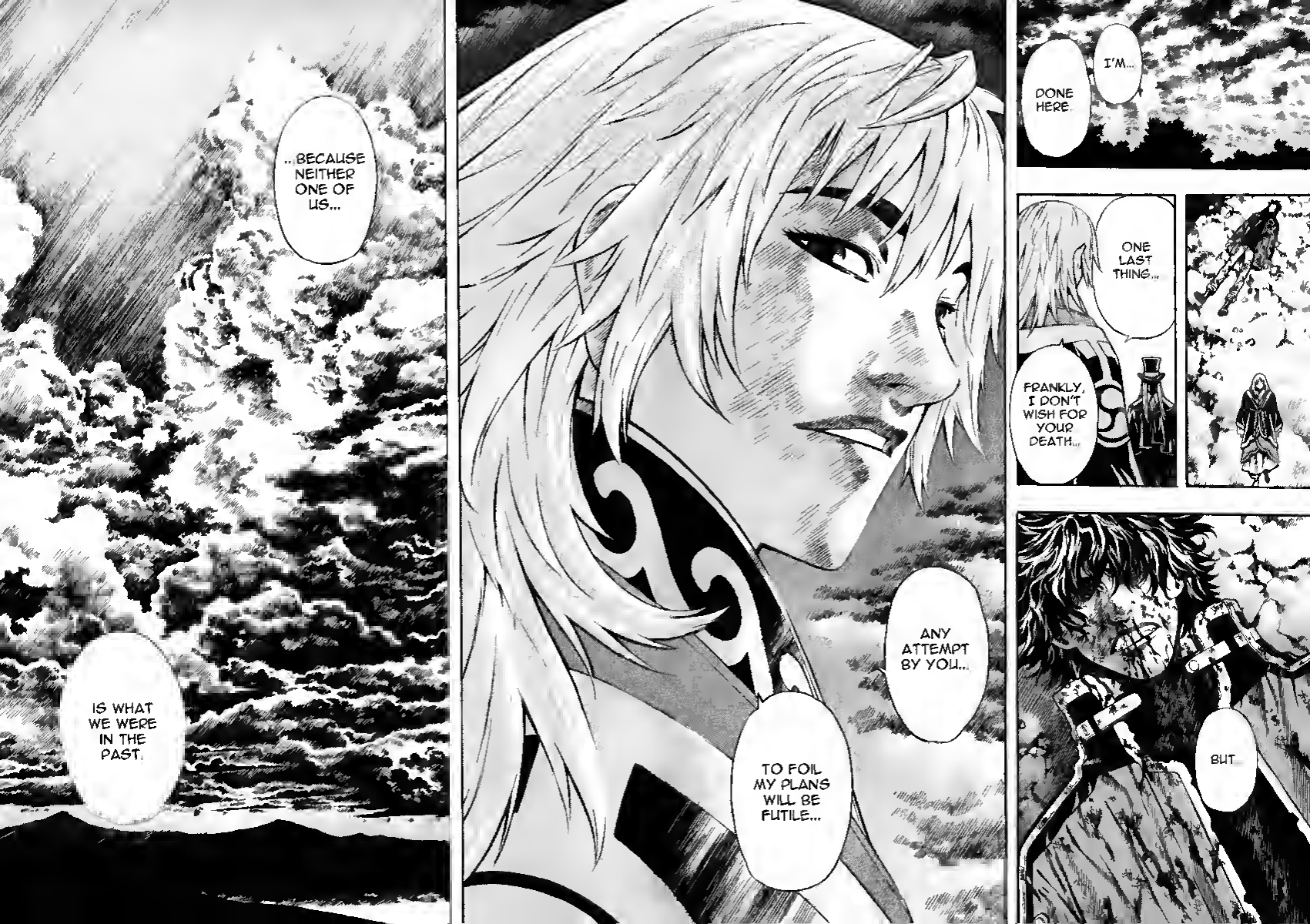
ST—
STOP JOKING, AJI TAE...
EVEN IF... THIS WORLD IS DESTROYED...
I'M GOING TO LET YOU OFF SO EASILY?
YOU THINK...
I WILL NEVER LET YOU DO WHAT YOU WANT.

THIS IS SO ODD.
THE GREAT MUNSU IS ACTUALLY QUIETLY WAITING FOR DEATH.
YOU ARE DYING
I SEE AND HOW DO YOU PLAN TO STOP ME?
I... WILL NOT DIE!
DON'T... WORRY...

HOW DO YOU PLAN TO ESCAPE DEATH?
YOUR SICKNESS IS INCURABLE
YOU WANT TO KNOW?
WHY SHOULD I TELL YOU?

EVEN IF YOU DON'T TELL ME NOW...
I'LL KNOW IT SOON
SEE...
I TOLD YOU NOT TO WORRY ABOUT IT

I WILL DEFINITELY... CONFRONT YOU AGAIN.
AND JUST LIKE I DID BEFORE... I'LL BEAT YOU TO A PULP!


.. BECAUSE NEITHER ONE OF US...
IS WHAT WE WERE IN THE PAST.
ANY ATTEMPT BY YOU...
TO FOIL MY PLANS WILL BE FUTILE...
I'M... DONE HERE.
ONE LAST THING...
FRANKLY, I DON'T WISH FOR YOUR DEATH...
BUT...

MUNSU-SAMA!
MUNSU-SAMA! HANG ON!
JUST HANG ON! I'LL FIND A DOCTOR!
YOU'RE BLEEDING NON-STOP FROM YOUR MOUTH!
NO, DON'T TALK!
BANG...
BANG JA...
IT'S... TOO... LATE...
NO... DON'T BOTHER.

...I...
NEED YOUR HELP

WHAT HAPPENED?
WHAT THE HELL?
WHA?

!!
NO, THEY'RE NOT ALL DEAD

IS EVERY-ONE DEAD?
THIS IS LIKE A HELL ON EARTH

LOOK
YEONG SIL

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
GEN-ERAL MUNSU!
BANG JA!

MUNSU-SAMA...
IS DEAD.

WHAT?
.....

MUNSU-SAMA HAS STOPPED BREATHING
HE'S DEAD...

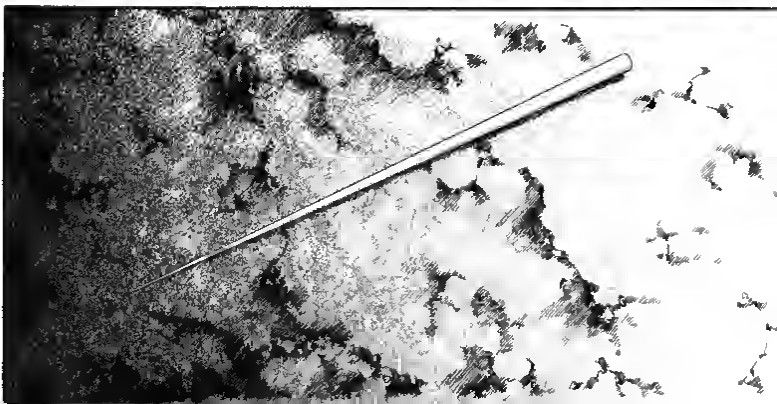
UWAHHH!
ARE YOU SURE HE'S NOT BREATHING?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

DAMN...
NO HEART-BEAT
WAHHH!

MUNSU-SAMA... MUNSU-SAMA, HE—
HEY, STOP CRYING! EXPLAIN THINGS FIRST!
WOOO WOOO!

MUNSU-SAMA, HE—
GET A HOLD OF YOURSELF! TELL ME EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED!
UWAHH !!

UWAHH!
MUNSU-
SAMA!



RE-
CENTLY
THERE
HAVE BEEN
QUITE A
FEW.
OK,
BREAK'S
OVER.
BACK TO
TRAINING.

A
FALL-
ING
STAR
THERE'S AN
OLD BELIEF
THAT A
FALLING
STAR
PROCLAIMS
THE DEATH
OF A
GREAT
MAN

TODAY,
WE HAVE A SPECIAL GUEST.
I WANT YOU TO FIGHT HER...
HE ASKED ME TO TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOU
LATELY, YOUR NAIVE-LOOKING EYES HAVE GROWN MORE BRILLIANT
TO SHOW THE PROGRESS YOU'VE MADE

THIS ENCOUNTER COMES WITH A HEAVY PRICE—
YOU BOTH WILL BE RISKING YOUR LIVES
AFTER ALL, ONCE YOU LEAVE HERE..
YOU'LL BE ENTERING THE COLD, CRUEL WORLD
WHETHER YOU BECOME A FALLING STAR...
OR REMAIN FIRMLY IN THE SKY, DEPENDS ON YOUR PERFORMANCE.
IT DEPENDS ON HOW DETERMINED YOU ARE TO WIN...
AND IF YOU HAVE THE PERSEVERANCE TO BECOME STRONG...
HEH!
YOU'RE STILL THE SAME, ALWAYS IN A DAZE.
I BET...
YOU'LL STAY THIS WAY FOR ANOTHER CENTURY

DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE ME
70
YOU'RE TOO ARRO-GANT.
I'M DEFINITELY GOING TO DEFEAT YOU THIS TIME.

71
HI...
MAY I ASK YOU SOMETHING?
WHAT IS IT?
I'M LOOKING FOR SOMEONE

AH.
MY SWORD IS BROKEN.
YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO FIND ONE IN THE VILLAGE
WHAT ARE YOU DOING UP HERE ON THE MOUN-TAIN?
HUH?
I HEARD THERE'S A VERY GOOD BLACKSMITH AROUND HERE. DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT?

THIS SWORD DOESN'T BREAK EASILY.
IT'S STRANGE
NONE OF THIS MAKES ANY SENSE TO ME
IN THIS WORLD,
THERE ARE MANY STRANGE OCCUR-RENCES.

WHAT EXACTLY...
DID MUNSU DO?

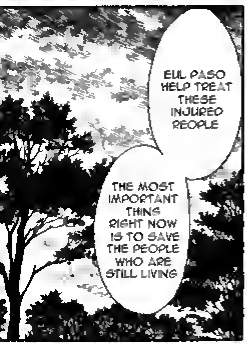
WHAT IN THE WORLD HAPPENED?
HEY, DANG JA, GET A GRIP! STOP CRYING AND TELL ME!
Classic.18 The Night of Darkness PART 1
ASKED ME FOR HELP. HE WANTED THE NEEDLE...
M-MUNSU-SAMA, HE...
WHY IS GENERAL MUNSU LIKE THIS?
WHAT DID HE DIE OF?
AND USE IT ON HIM.
HE TOLD ME TO TAKE THE NEEDLE OUT OF HIS POCKET...

UHHH!
SO I DID WHAT HE TOLD ME TO AND STUCK HIM WITH THE NEEDLE I DIDN'T HAVE ANY CHOICE!
BUT I NEVER IMAGINED HE WOULD ACTUALLY DIE!
HEY YEONG SIL THIS MUST BE THE NEEDLE HE'S TALKING ABOUT
NEEDLE?
YES! HE SAID IT HAD TO BE DONE WHILE THERE WAS STILL TIME

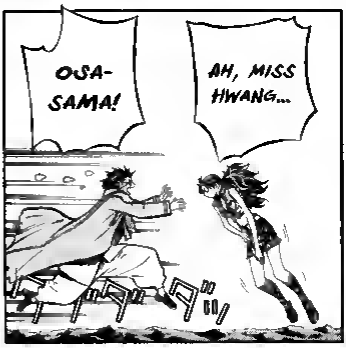
2

IN OTHER WORDS, GENERAL MUNSU DIED...
BECAUSE OF THIS NEEDLE?
MISS HWANG?
NO... THE ACUPUNCTURE WOULDN'T HAVE MADE ANY DIFFERENCE.
HE WAS ALREADY TOO FAR GONE

I WILL NEVER...
FORGIVE AOI TAE...


EIJI, ALSO HELP TREAT THESE INJURED PEOPLE
THE MOST IMPORTANT THING RIGHT NOW IS TO SAVE THE PEOPLE WHO ARE STILL LIVING

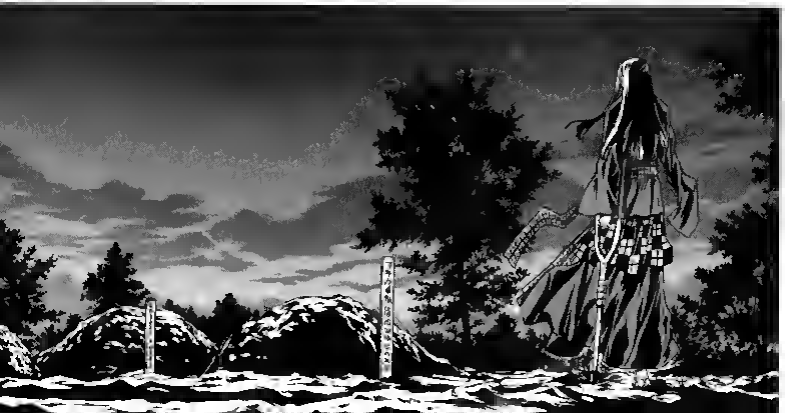
AOI...
WHAT EXACTLY HAPPENED?
TAE?

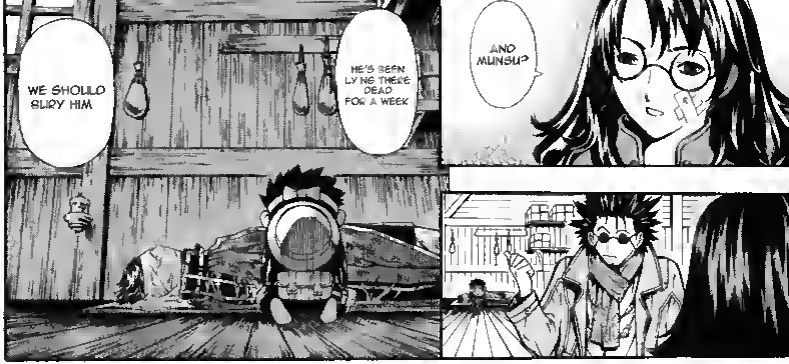

OSA-SAMA!
AH, MISS HWANG...

HI...
YOU'RE AWAKE!
THIS IS GREAT!
YOU'VE BEEN ASLEEP FOR A WEEK
WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
YOU DARED CROSS THE LINE!
WHAT THE HELL WERE YOU TRYING TO DO?
4
UGH
THIS IS A HOSPITAL IN KIMHAE
WE MOVED ALL THE INJURED PEOPLE HERE

FOUR...
TWO THREE
ONE...
SURVIVORS
HOW MANY WERE THERE?

FIVE.
AND IF YOU INCLUDE THE GUY WHO'S OUTSIDE RIGHT NOW—





Classic.18 The Night of Darkness PART 1

ANYWAY, MAYBE THAT SHORTY WILL LISTEN TO YOU

DAMN IT IT USED TO BE NO MATTER HOW HARD YOU TRIED, YOU JUST COULDN'T KILL HIM
I DON T KNOW WHAT TO THINK ANYMORE MUINSU HAS ALWAYS BEEN THERE MOCKING EVERYBODY

HIS HEART HAS STOPPED THERE S NO SIGN OF LIFE
HE'S MOST CERTAINLY DEAD

MUNSU-SAMA IS NOT DEAD YET!
SO DON'T SAY A DAMN THING ABOUT BURYING HIM!
HE'S NOT DEAD!
RAN?—
HE COULDN'T HAVE JUST DIED LIKE THAT.
SO HE'LL PROBABLY COME AROUND ANYTIME NOW.
BACK THEN, MUNSU-SAMA TOLD AJI TAE STRAIGHT OUT.
HE TOLD HIM HE DEFINITELY WASN'T GOING TO DIE!

OH, MISS HWANG, YOU'RE AWAKE
THAT'S GOOD TO SEE
UHHH
SNUFFLE
8
OH, YES YOUR SANDO IS BEING CARED FOR BY A LOCAL VETERINARIAN IT'S IN CRITICAL CONDITION
IT'S BEEN AWHILE I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU SINCE YOU HAD YOUR MAHAI MODIFIED
YEONG SIL

I FEEL BAD ABOUT ASKING THIS WHEN YOU AREN'T EVEN FULLY HEALED
MAY I ASK YOU TO HELP ME WITH SOMETHING? COULD YOU TAKE GENERAL MUNSU'S BODY TO MITO-SAMA?
I DON'T ADVISE THAT IT WAS BADLY HURT AND IS STILL RECOVERING
REALLY? MY SANDO WAS RESCUED? I HAVE TO GO SEE—
.....
SANDO WAS TRYING TO PROTECT ME
I NOW REALIZE THERE ARE JUST TOO MANY ANOMALIES
BUT THERE IS SOMETHING URGENT I NEED TO INVESTIGATE
AND YET HIS BODY IS SHOWING NO SIGNS OF DECAY
FOR THE PAST FEW DAYS, IT'S BEEN REALLY HOT AND HUMID...
EH?
ABOUT GENERAL MUNSU'S DEATH—

I BELIEVE...
IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THAT NEEDLE
10
ARE YOU SAYING MUNSU ISN'T DEAD?
I REALLY FEEL SORRY FOR RANG OA, BUT I DON'T REALLY THINK ANYONE CAN DEFY THE LAWS OF NATURE
THAT'S THE MOST OPTIMISTIC OF ALL THE POSSIBILITIES
NO MATTER HOW YOU PUT IT, WHAT IS LYING THERE IS A DEAD BODY
ON THE OTHER HAND...
IT'S COMPLETELY UNBELIEVABLE
SO, I WANT TO FIND OUT ABOUT THAT NEEDLE
THAT GENERAL MUNSU ACCEPTED DEATH SO EASILY
I INTEND TO GO DOOR TO DOOR AND PLACE TO PLACE TO GET THE INFORMATION I NEED

HAVE YOU SEEN WON SUL AROUND?
OH YEAH!
WON SUL?
HE'S THE ONE WHO WAS ALL WRAPPED IN BANDAGES.
OH, YES... SOMEBODY COVERED IN BANDAGES.
THAT'S STRANGE... I KNOW HE WAS THERE, BUT...
LOOK AS THOUGH... WON SUL WAS RECLAIMED BY GUITAE....

.....
WHAT A HORRIFIC BATTLE

THERE WERE NO VICTORS.
ONLY A FEW WOUNDED LEFT...

ALTHOUGH IT PAINS ME GREATLY, I HAVE CONVINCED MYSELF TO ACCEPT THIS.
IT WAS A CHOICE YOU MADE, HONG GILDONG
PLEASE, IN THIS PLACE...
REST IN PEACE, TOGETHER WITH BAE RYONG
.....
AJI TAE...
HAS BECOME MY SWORN ENEMY. I SWEAR I WILL KILL HIM FOR YOU,
DORSO

THIS NEEDLE
I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT IT
HMM
NOPE I DON'T KNOW ANY-THING
I CAN'T REALLY SAY...
JUST WHAT KIND OF NEEDLE THIS IS
JUDGING BY THE SIZE AND STRUCTURE OF THIS NEEDLE IT ORIGINALLY HELD SOME KIND OF MEDICINE TO BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH ACUPUNCTURE
AH, IT'S TOO BAD BUT SINCE IT'S BEEN USED, THERE IS NO MEDICINE REMAINING

IF THIS NEXT ONE ISN'T ANY HELP, I MIGHT AS WELL RETURN HOME...
IN THE LAST FIVE DAYS I'VE BEEN TO MORE THAN A HUNDRED CLINICS.

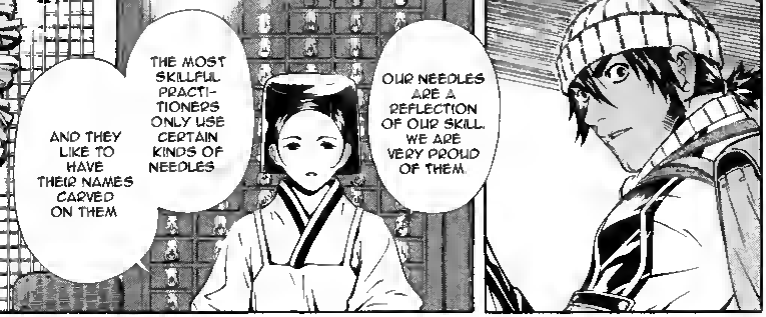
DAMN IT, GENERAL.
WHAT WAS IN THAT NEEDLE?

OH...
THIS IS...

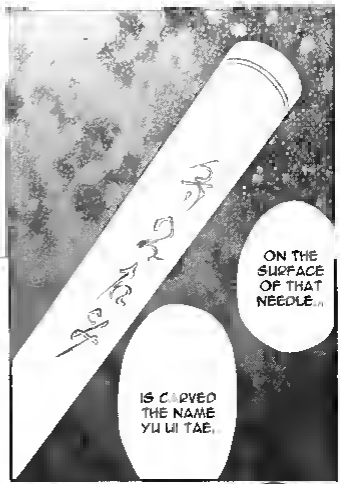
WELL THEN GOOD-BYE
BUT I KNOW WHOSE NEEDLE IT IS

NO, I DON'T
.....

ABOUT WHAT WAS IN THAT NEEDLE?
YOU KNOW SOMETHING?


THE MOST SKILLFUL PRACTI-TIONERS ONLY USE CERTAIN KINDS OF NEEDLES
AND THEY LIKE TO HAVE THEIR NAMES CARVED ON THEM
OUR NEEDLES ARE A REFLECTION OF OUR SKILL. WE ARE VERY PROUD OF THEM.

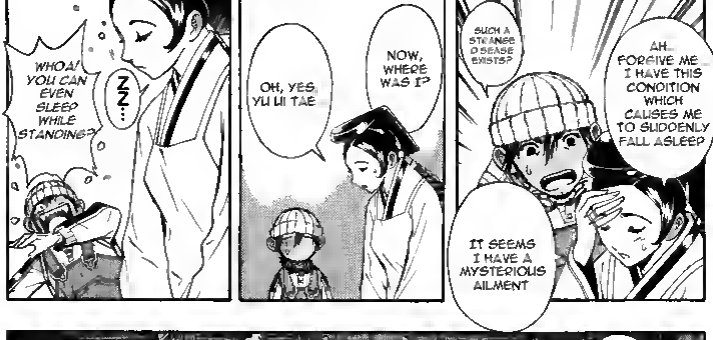
HE IS A RATHER WELL KNOWN PHYSICIAN
YU UI TAE?
IT'S TRUE. THE NAME IS THERE


ON THE SURFACE OF THAT NEEDLE...
IS CARVED THE NAME YU UI TAE.

AS A RESULT, HE WAS ALSO CALLED 'THE MAN WHO CREATES MIRACLES.'
IT'S BEEN SAID THAT YU UI TAE WAS ABLE TO MAKE THE DEAD LIVE AGAIN.

HEY!
WHY... WHY DID YOU SUDDENLY COLLAPSE?!

SO WHERE DOES THIS YU UI TAE LIVE? SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE?
HE COULD RAISE PEOPLE FROM THE DEAD? DAMN! WHY DO I KEEP RUNNING INTO SUCH STRANGE THINGS?


WHOA! YOU CAN EVEN SLEEP WHILE STANDING?
ZZ...
OH, YES, YU UI TAE
NOW, WHERE WAS I?
SUCH A STRANGE DISEASE EXISTS?
AH... FORGIVE ME... I HAVE THIS CONDITION WHICH CAUSES ME TO SUDDENLY FALL ASLEEP
IT SEEMS I HAVE A MYSTERIOUS AILMENT

HAS ALREADY PASSED AWAY
THAT MAN YU UI TAE...

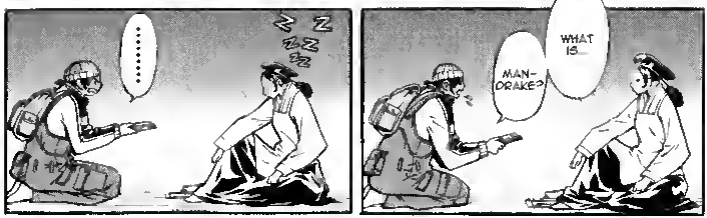
HE MUST HAVE CAUGHT THE PLAGUE FROM THE ISLANDERS HE WAS TRYING TO HELP
I HEARD HIS BODY WAS FOUND ON A PLAGUE-STRICKEN ISLAND
IT WAS VERY SAD

EH? HE'S DEAD?
YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING

WHEN HE WAS STILL ALIVE...
HE USED TO VISIT THIS CLINIC

I WAS JUST JOKING THIS TIME
WHAT'S WITH THIS WOMAN?
AH! THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT PLEASE DON'T FALL ASLEEP!
WHAT BOOK IS THAT?
REALLY?
THAT NEEDLE IS VERY LARGE FOR REGULAR ACUPUNC-TURE
IT WAS PROBABLY FILLED WITH SOME KIND OF MEDICINE
IF THERE REALLY WAS SOME MEDICINE SEALED IN THAT NEEDLE, PERHAPS IT WAS THIS
HE ONCE ASKED US TO FIND A FEW EXTREMELY RARE HERBS
HE USED TO BUY MEDICINE FROM THE LOCAL CLINICS, INCLUDING THIS ONE
YU UI TAE WAS A TRAVELING PHYSICIAN

MANDRAKE?


WHAT IS... MAN-DRAKE?
……
Z Z Z Z

I HAVE TO HURRY
AND LET EVERYONE KNOW!
THIS IS CRUCIAL INFORMATION!
IF THIS IS WHAT IT SEEMS, THEN GENERAL MUNSU—

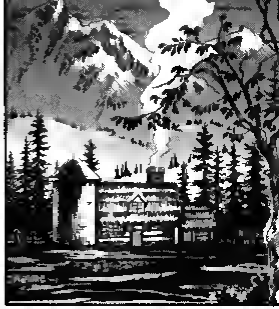
WELL, OF COURSE I DID, YOU, OF ALL PEOPLE, SHOULD TRUST ME, RIGHT?
OH, WHEN DID YOU ARRIVE?

DID YOU
TELL HIM EVERY-THING?

I DIDN'T MISS A SINGLE WORD.
THAT LORD AJI TAE WANTED HIM TOLD.

IT SEEMS THAT LORD AJI TAE...
IS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THIS MAN MUNSU
EVEN WE...
CANNOT COMPREHEND WHAT HE IS REALLY THINKING
WE CAN ONLY FOLLOW HIM...
AND WAIT FOR THE CREATION OF A WHOLE NEW WORLD...
Yawn
YOU SHOULD GO FIRST.
I REALLY WANT TO SLEEP A BIT BESIDES...

THIS FOOD...
NEEDS TO BE PUT AWAY



YEONG SIL, WHAT IS TAKING YOU SO LONG?

WHAT A TROUBLE-SOME IDIOT
WHY DID I EVEN BOTHER TO CREATE HIS NEW MAHAI?
BEFORE MUNSU DIED
HE HAD ACUPUNCTURE DONE ON HIMSELF

MUNSU-SAMA...
IS NOT DEAD!
23
WELL THEN..
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HOSPITALITY THESE LAST FEW DAYS
WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS, MISS HWANG?
HMM NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
MY RECENT ENCOUNTERS HAVE BEEN VERY HUMILIATING
I WAS CAPTURED, ROBBED AND DEFEATED IN THE END I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THAT
I WANT TO CHANGE MY ATTITUDE AND START FRESH!
FROM NOW ON, MY NAME IS 'SHIN MISS HWANG'!

YOU— YOU CALLED ME A SHRIMP!
ANYWAY AOI TAE IS NOW ONE OF MY OBJECTIVES
I WILL WORK HARD AT IT, HITO-SAMA

SHUT UP, YOU GLASSES-WEARING SHRIMP!
IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S GOING TO MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE.
WHAT A BORE! WHAT SHIN MISS HWANG?

BUT I HAVE MY PRIDE, TOO.
EVERYONE WAS COUNTING ON MUNSU

WE SHALL MEET AGAIN.
TAKE CARE

I AM DONE WITH THE HUNTING.
I NEVER IMAGINED YOUR BODY COULD STILL MOVE LIKE THAT.
I'VE TROUBLED YOU SO MUCH THIS IS A TOKEN OF MY APPRECIATION.
MEOW
MEOW
ANY NEWS FROM YEONG SIL-DONG?
NOT YET. HE SHOULD BE RETURNING SOON.
BUT YOU SHOULDN'T WORRY, HE IS AN AMAZING SCIENTIST
I'M SURE HE'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE PROSTHETIC LIMBS FOR YOU

HONG GILDONG MAY HAVE FORGIVEN MUNSU, BUT THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU WERE ONCE MUNSU'S BITTER ENEMY, AND NOW
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, YOU'VE CHANGED
HAVE NOT BEEN AVENGED
MY COMPANIONS WHO WERE DEFEATED BY MUNSU
I CANNOT FORGIVE HIM.
WHETHER MUNSU IS DEAD OR STILL ALIVE,
I DIDN'T EVEN GET TO HEAR HONG GILDONG'S LAST WORDS.
AND IT'S BECAUSE OF HIM THAT I'M LIKE THIS.

BUT... THAT AJI TAE...

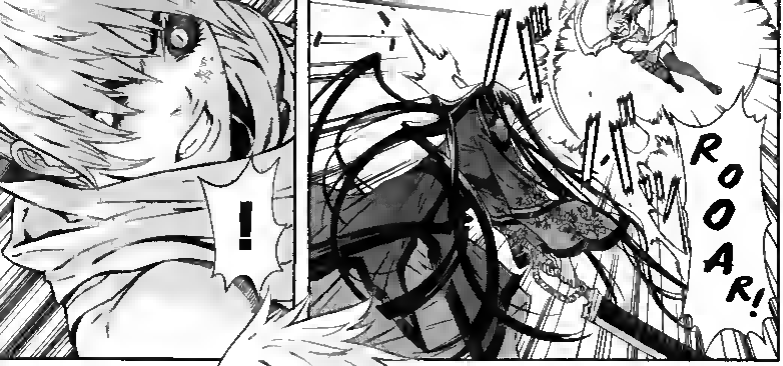
MEOW
WHAT TAE YU SAID IS TRUE
THE HWALIN DANG
IS STILL NOT FINISHED

カキン

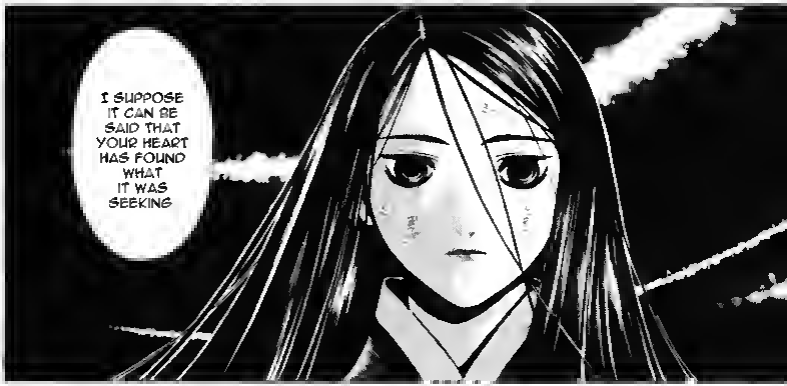
ドガガ

EVEN MY TWO DISCIPLES WHO RAN AWAY...
YOU WERE RIGHT. SHE HAS BECOME VERY SKILLED.
OH HO
WHAT A SURPRISE
HEH.

WOULD BE NO MATCH FOR HER


!
ROOAR!

IT'S JUST THAT COMPARED TO THE LAST TIME YOU FOUGHT, HOW SHOULD I PUT IT?
I DON'T MEAN IT IN A BAD WAY.
YOU
ARE DIFFERENT NOW

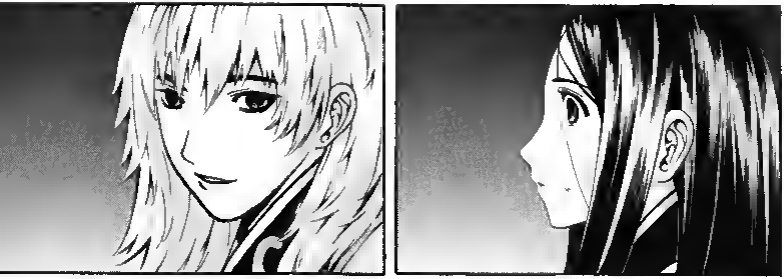

I SUPPOSE IT CAN BE SAID THAT YOUR HEART HAS FOUND WHAT IT WAS SEEKING

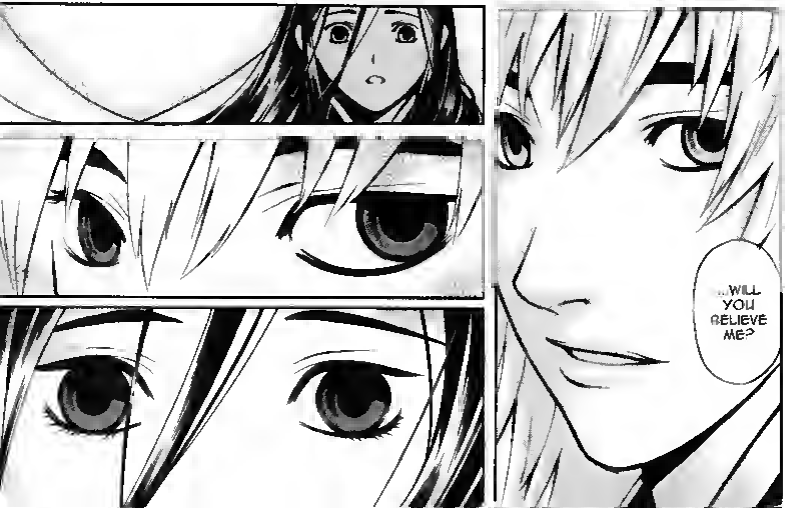
クス

I WAS HOPING HE WOULD BE ABLE TO HELP YOU FIND YOUR HEART'S DESIRE. BUT AS YOU'VE SEEN, HE'S A WEIRD GUY.
TO BE HONEST, WHEN I FIRST PUT YOU IN MUJANG'S CARE... I WAS REALLY WORRIED.
WHAT HAVE I DONE WRONG?!
HEY!

AND YOU HAVE GROWN STRONGER
BUT YOUR HEART HAS REMAINED TRUE

TELLING YOU THAT NOW...
SHOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM

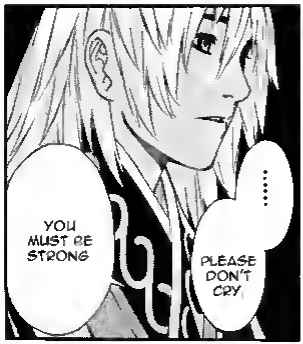


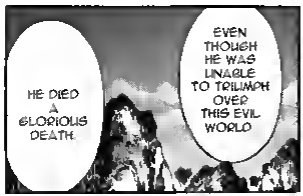

...WILL YOU BELIEVE ME?

YES.

YOUR
MASTER
IS
DEAD.

HE WAS FIGHTING A GROUP OF BANDITS CALLED THE HWALBIN-DANG.
AND ALTHOUGH HE FOUGHT FOR THE SAKE OF SOCIETY... AND WON...
HE LOST HIS LIFE.
HE HAS BEEN DEAD...
FOR MORE THAN HALF A MONTH.
AH...
.....
AH...


YOU MUST BE STRONG
.....
PLEASE DON'T CRY


HE DIED A GLORIOUS DEATH
EVEN THOUGH HE WAS UNABLE TO TRIUMPH OVER THIS EVIL WORLD

I UNDER-STAND IT DEEPLY
THE PAIN OF LOSING SOMEONE PRECIOUS TO YOU

YOU MUST NOT WALLOW IN SADNESS
HOWEVER

INSTEAD, LET US CONSIDER
HOW TOGETHER WE CAN RID THIS WORLD OF SUCH PAIN AND BITTERNESS

PLEASE RAISE YOUR HEAD AND LOOK AT ME
YOU WILL DEFINITELY CONTINUE TO GROW STRONGER
JUST LOOK AT YOURSELF.

YOUR HEART HURTS SO BADLY...
YET YOU HAVE NOT SHED A SINGLE TEAR
I CAN GROW STRONGER
YOU ARE NO LONGER THE OLD YOU
THAT'S RIGHT
YOU MUST ENDURE THIS AND CONTINUE TO BECOME STRONGER
I WANT TO BE STRONGER

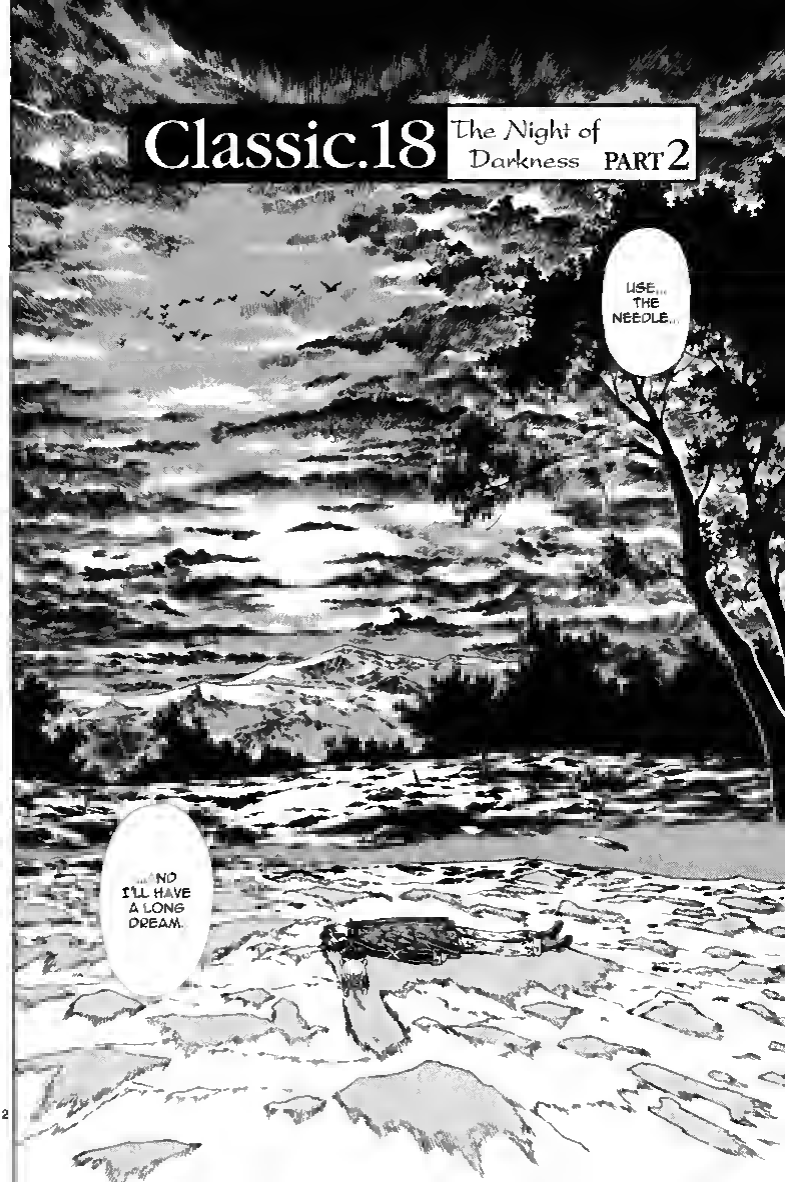
...FOR WHOM?
...BUT...
FOR YOU TO BECOME STRONGER FOR ME?
WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE ...

HAVE YOU REALLY DIED?
MUNSU-S...M...
HAVE YOU REALLY...
REALLY... DIED?
A PERSON LIKE YOU... WOULD NEVER LET HIMSELF DIE IN SUCH A PITIFUL WAY.
DIDN'T YOU SAY... YOU WOULD NEVER DIE?

BANG JA!
BEFORE GENERAL MUNSU DIED, HE ASKED YOU TO STICK HIM WITH THAT NEEDLE, RIGHT?

Classic.18

The Night of Darkness PART 2


Classic.18
The Night of Darkness PART 2
USE... THE NEEDLE...
...NO I'LL HAVE A LONG DREAM.

HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
THIS IS THE ONLY WAY
I'VE BEEN CARRYING THIS NEEDLE... TO DEFEAT AJI TAE...
URGH... MAYBE THIS... IS FATE.
URGGH!
DON'T...
DON'T WORRY, BANG JA..
I WON'T DIE
MUNSU-SAMA!

RELAX...
USE THE NEEDLE...

A MANDRAKE NEEDLE?
YES, THAT NEEDLE...
HAD MANDRAKE IN IT

MANDRAKE...
HOW DID MUNSU GET HOLD OF IT?

THE MANDRAKE PLANT RESEMBLES A HUMAN WHEN IT'S PULLED FROM THE SOIL
IT EMITS A TERRIFYING SCREAM THAT KILLS ANYONE WHO HEARS IT.

THAT DRUG ALLOWS A MAN TO SEE WHAT HE DESIRES MOST
IT IS A VERY STRONG HALLUCINOGEN!

A PERSON INJECTED WITH MANDRAKE IS TRAPPED IN HIS OWN FANTASIES...
AND MAY NEVER WAKE UP
AND BET HIS LIFE ON IT
GENERAL MUNSU MUST HAVE THOUGHT OF IT AS HIS LAST RESORT...
YES MANDRAKE IS ALMOST A LEGEND IT IS SUPPOSED TO RELIEVE ANY KIND OF PAIN
AND HAS BEEN CALLED A UNIVERSAL ANTIDOTE
WELL, THE CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE...
HOW DO WE KNOW MUNSU ACTUALLY USED A MANDRAKE NEEDLE?
I'VE ONLY HEARD A LITTLE ABOUT IT.
MITO SAMA YOU KNOW ABOUT MANDRAKE?

IT'S A POWERFUL HALLUCINOGEN WHICH IS SAID TO BE EFFECTIVE EVEN ON THE DEAD
IF MUNSU USED MANDRAKE
HE ISN'T FEELING ANY PAIN
THAT WOULD EXPLAIN HIS CURRENT STATE
ALTHOUGH IT'S A MIRACLE DRUG...
THERE IS A PRICE TO PAY
YES, THAT'S WHY I ASKED RANG JA--
RANG JA,
ARE YOU CERTAIN...
YOU STUCK THE NEEDLE INTO GENERAL MUNSU?
YES
I DID!

MITO-SAMA DOES THAT MEAN MUNSU-SAMA USED THAT NEEDLE...
IN ORDER TO AVOID DEATH?
.....

HA HA HA! THAT'S REALLY GREAT!!
THAT'S WHY HE DECIDED TO USE THAT NEEDLE
MUNSU-SAMA WILL NEVER ALLOW HIMSELF TO BE CONTROLLED BY THAT DRUG
HA HA THAT'S GREAT
THEN THAT MEANS MUNSU-SAMA IS STILL ALIVE!
ONCE HE BREAKS FREE FROM HIS ILLUSIONS... HE'LL WAKE UP, RIGHT?

GUT, BANG JA...
THAT WOULD INDEED BE GREAT
IF MUNSU CAN TRIUMPH OVER HIS FANTASIES

ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE.
THAT IS

ヒュウウウ
3
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WHY IS IT IM-- POSSIBLE?

I MEAN, MUNSU CAN'T WAKE UP NOW EVEN IF HE IS STILL ALIVE
WH-WHAT DO YOU MEAN? PLEASE EXPLAIN IN SIMPLE WORDS!
SINCE MUNSU USED THAT NEEDLE ON THE VERGE OF DEATH
EVEN IF HE LIVES ON, HE WOULD BE LIKE A ZOMBIE
THIS MUST BE THE FALSE DEATH SAID TO BE A SIDE EFFECT OF THE MANDRAKE
HIS HEART HAS STOPPED YET HIS BODY HASN'T DECAYED
THAT'S THE FATE OF THOSE WHO DEFY THE LAWS OF NATURE
BUT THE PRICE HE PAID WAS TO LEAVE HIS FATE TO THE MANDRAKE IN THAT NEEDLE
MUNSU USED THE MANDRAKE TO AVOID HIS APPROACHING DEATH,

IT WILL TAKE BACK WHAT IT GIVES...
THAT IS THE LAW OF NATURE.

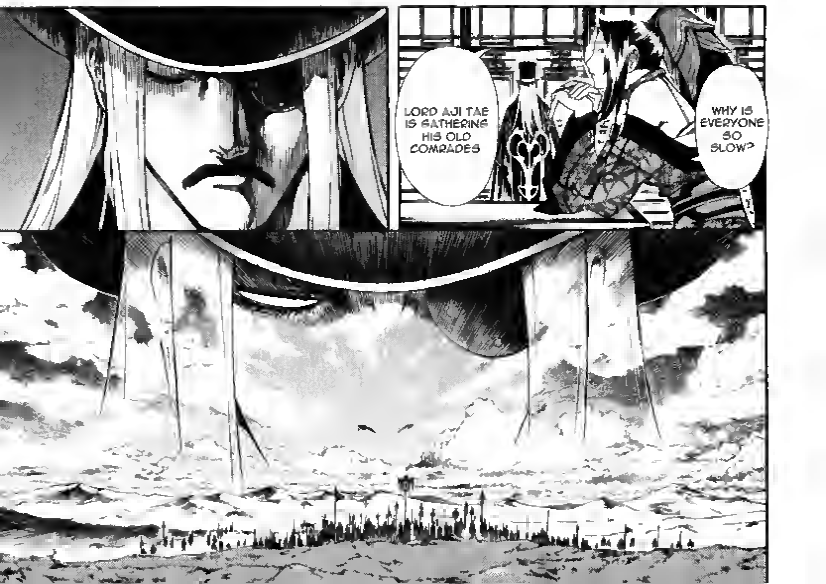
BANG JA, YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE DREAMS CAUSED BY MANDRAKE ARE LIKE REALITY
EVEN THOUGH IT'S MUNSU HE MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO ESCAPE
YOU MEAN...
HE'S AS GOOD AS DEAD?
AH...
HOW COULD THAT BE?
IN THEORY, IT'S POSSIBLE FOR HIM TO AWAKEN.
THE DOCTOR WHO GAVE ME THE INFORMATION ABOUT MANDRAKE...
WARNED ME ABOUT ITS DEVASTATING EFFECTS...

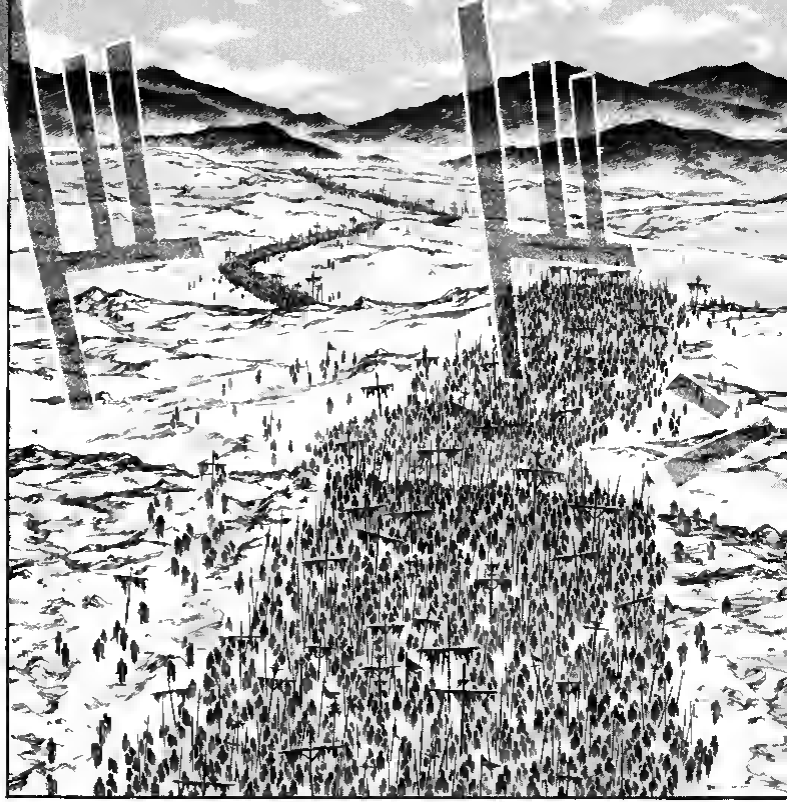
—BUT—
THERE IS A SOLUTION

DIDN'T I ALREADY SAY I FOLLOWED LORD AJI TAE'S INSTRUCTIONS COMPLETELY?
I TOLD HIM HOW TO COUNTER THE EFFECTS OF THE MANDRAKE.

DID YOU...
TELL HIM ABOUT THE METHOD?

I TOLD HIM ALL THOSE LIES
IN A VERY CONVINCING MANNER


WHY IS EVERYONE SO SLOW?
LORD AJI TAE IS GATHERING HIS OLD COMRADES



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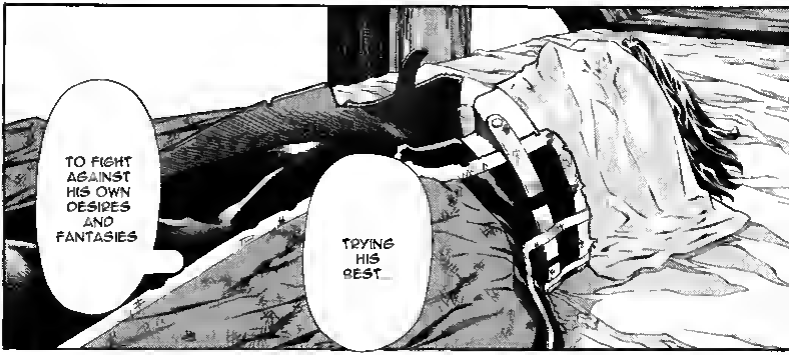
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME BESIDES, THERE'S NOT MUCH TIME LEFT
MT. BAEKDU IS JUSHIN'S-- NO THE WORLD'S MOST DANGEROUS MOUNTAIN
WILL YOU BE ALL RIGHT, YEONG SIL?
YOU HAVEN'T EVEN RESTED AFTER YOUR JOURNEY

ACCORDING TO THE DOCTOR, THAT PLANT CAN BRING GENERAL MUNSU OUT OF HIS FALSE DEATH STATE
THE ANTIDOTE TO THE MANDRAKE IS A FLOWER CALLED A PIRANSEOKHWA IT ONLY GROWS AT THE SUMMIT OF THE MOUNTAIN

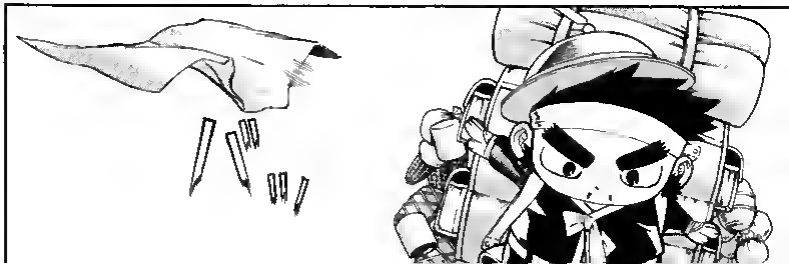
THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH TRUST!
WE HAVE TO TRY!
IF THERE IS ANY CHANCE THAT WE CAN REVIVE MUNSU-SAMA...

IS SHE TRUST-WORTHY?
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE HEARD OF AN ANTIDOTE FOR MANDRAKE

I'M SURE GENERAL MUNSU IS ALSO
BUT WE STILL HAVE TO TRY OUR BEST
THIS TRIP MAY TURN OUT TO BE FUTILE
RANG JA IS RIGHT

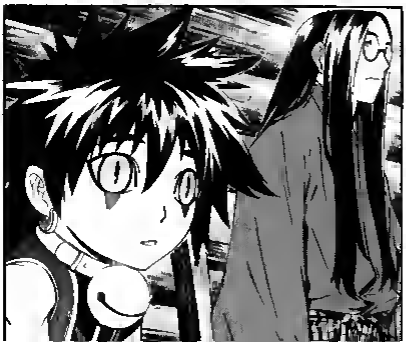

TO FIGHT AGAINST HIS OWN DESIRES AND FANTASIES
TRYING HIS BEST...

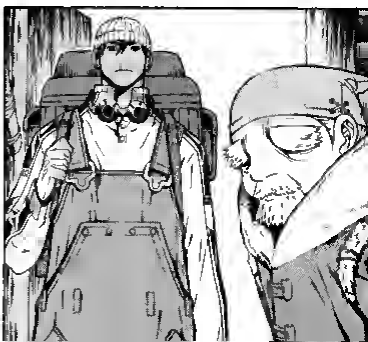
EXCUSE ME!



WAIT FOR US, MUNSU-SAMA!
I KNOW I'VE ALWAYS BEEN A BURDEN TO YOU...

BUT THIS TIME...
I WON'T BE!

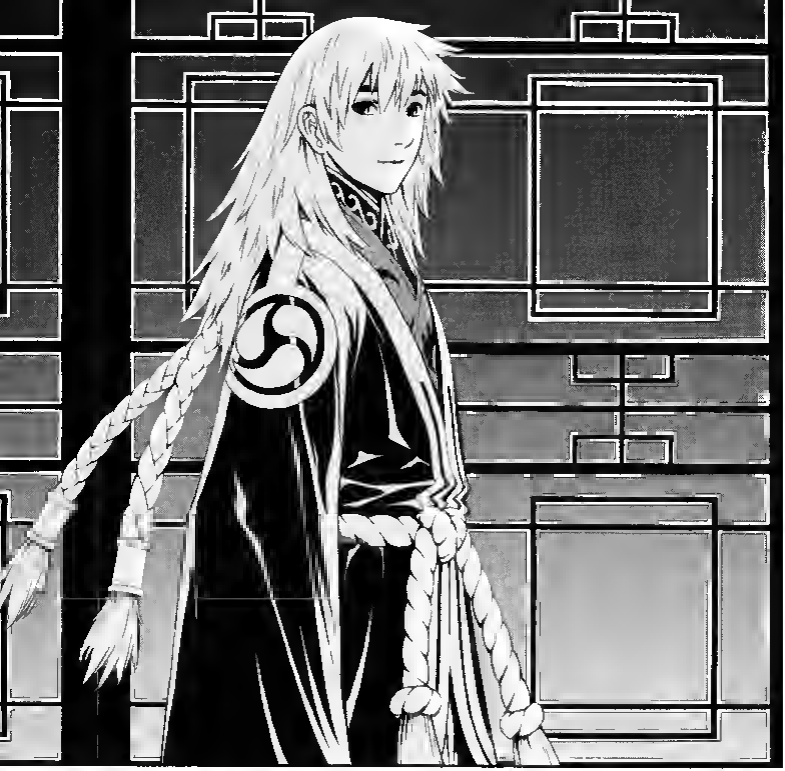




BE SURE TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR PROSTHESIS!
I'LL DO YOUR ARM NEXT TIME
THIS ONE IS JUST TEMPORARY BUT IT IS STILL VERY STRONG!
LET'S GO!
THERE HAVE BEEN SO MANY THINGS HAPPENING LATELY
I THINK AOI TAE WILL BE ON THE MOVE
I'VE BEEN OBSERVING YOU FOR A WHILE...
ARE YOU REALLY JUST A BLACKSMITH, SIR?

ARE
YOU...
INTERESTED IN SORCERY?
IT'S THE LORD!
THE LORD HAS RETURNED SAFELY!
ARE YOU WELL, MY LORD?
SORRY TO HAVE BEEN SUCH WORRY TO EVERYONE
DON'T SAY THAT KIMHAE WAS SAVED BECAUSE OF YOUR LORDSHIP
NO, I'M NOT THAT POWERFUL...
THAT GREAT MAN HAS PAID A VISIT!
WHAT GREAT MAN?
SHALL WE GO NOW? DON'T KEEP HIM WAITING!

.....



AHHHH!
AH...
AH...

HOW COULD HE DO SUCH A THING IN THE PRESENCE OF OUR BEAUTIFUL LORD AJI TAE?
MAYBE I SHOULD JUST EAT HIM
MY, MY
HE FAINTED.
DON'T EVEN THINK OF DIRTYING THIS HOLY PLACE...
BE PATIENT, MYO WOL.

WITHOUT MY PERMISSION!

CAN'T YOU WAIT FOR ME A LITTLE, SALUMARO-KYOU?
I'M WAITING FOR SOME IMPORTANT FRIENDS
CHECKMATE, LORD AJI TAE.
カチャ
カチャ
THEY ARE RETURNING TO THIS WORLD AFTER FIVE HUNDRED YEARS.
MY MOST IMPORTANT FRIENDS...

 *Sambyeolcho = Three Patrols

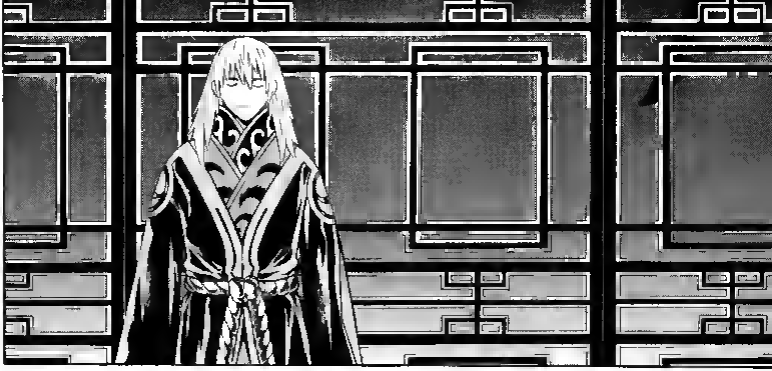
NA HAN,
COMMANDER,
RIGHT PATROL
PYO,
COMMANDER,
LEFT PATROL

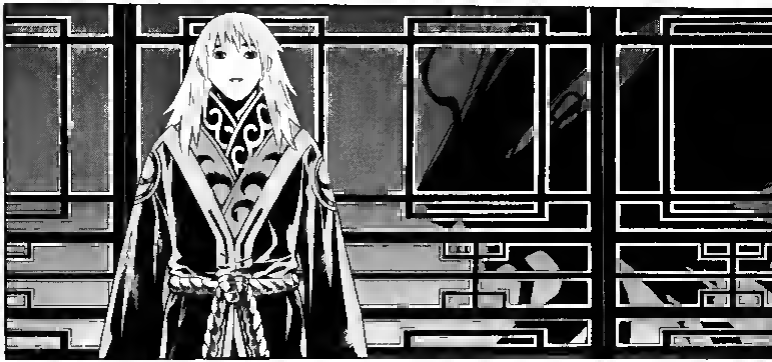
IT SEEMS EVERYONE IS HERE
DON'T WORRY IT'S FINE THIS HAS BEEN A LONG JOURNEY FOR YOU
I'M SORRY
MY MEN HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO WAIT OUTSIDE
KAIDATEN IS NOT HERE YET

SHE IS CONTEMPLATING THE MOON. IT MAKES HER FEEL MORE AT EASE
KAIDATEN HAS ALREADY ARRIVED.

BEGIN.
LET'S...
BUT FOR MANKIND.
THIS WILL BE DONE, NOT FOR JUSHIN...
WE WILL START FROM HERE.

LET US CREATE...
A BEAUTIFUL NEW WORLD!

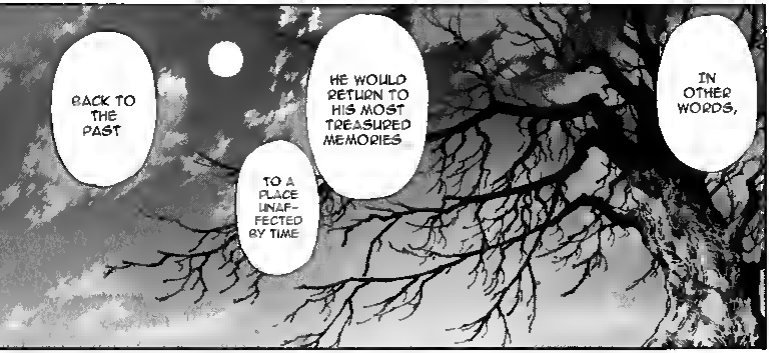




AH... WELL...
ACCORDING TO THE PERSON WHO TOLD ME ABOUT THE MANDRAKE...
MUNSU-SAMA... WHAT KIND OF DREAMS DO YOU THINK HE'S HAVING RIGHT NOW?
HUH? WHAT IS IT, GANG JA?

YEONG SIL...
MAY I ASK YOU SOME-THING?

THE DRUG ALLOWS THE PERSON...
TO LIVE IN THE WORLD HE MOST DESIRES...
OR TO RETURN TO THE MOST UNFORGET-TABLE MOMENTS OF HIS LIFE


IN OTHER WORDS,
HE WOULD RETURN TO HIS MOST TREASURED MEMORIES
TO A PLACE UNAF-FECTED BY TIME
BACK TO THE PAST

THE PAST

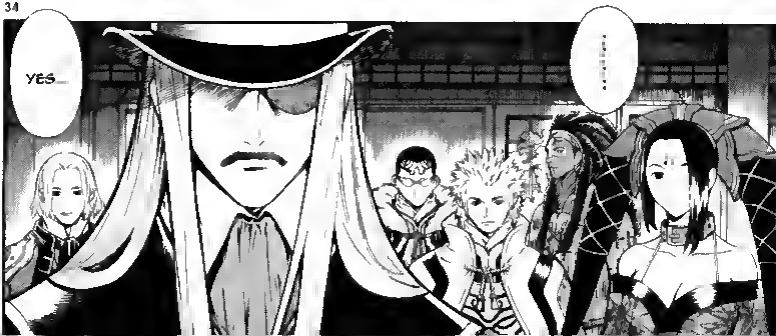
I'M SHIVERING.
YEONG SIL, I FEEL UNE..SY ABOUT THIS...

AND ONCE HE FINDS THAT PLACE,
HE WILL STAY THERE FOREVER

EVEN A GLIMMER OF HOPE...
WITHOUT...

HOW SHOULD I SAY THIS? I'M NOT SURE, BUT...
IT'S LIKE LIVING IN DARKNESS

FROM THIS DAY ON
PLEASE PROTECT ME

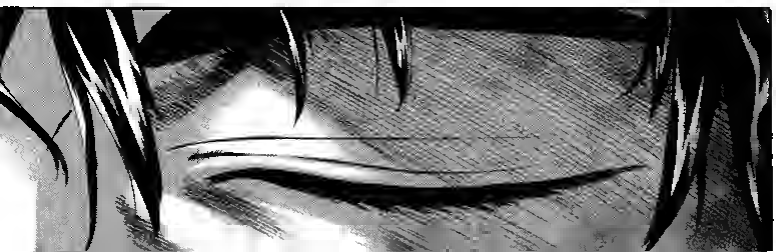

YES...
...

I WILL DEFINITELY...
PROTECT YOU UNTIL THE END.

IT'S TIME TO GO, BANG JA!

GENERAL...
AM I RIGHT?
DON'T WORRY GENERAL MUNSU IS SURE TO WAKE UP
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY NO HOPE?
NO MATTER HOW MUCH I THINK ABOUT IT THERE IS NO ONE BESIDES YOU...
WHO CAN STOP THAT DEVIL.
THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN DEFEAT HIM...
IS YOU.

PLEASE
...
WAKE
UP,
GENERAL...



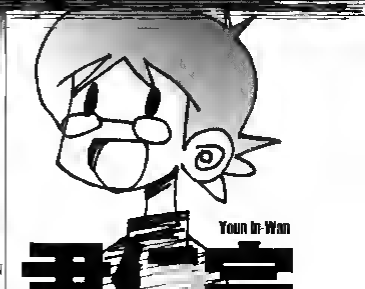
Sol Sung-Gyong

薛盛璟

Born in 1944
Korean Historical Studies University Professor
He has published 'The Secrets of the Tale of Chun Hyang' and numerous other works relating to classical Korean literature. In addition to winning Korean literature prizes (We Seoul Prize, etc.), he is also publicly recognized as the authority on classical literature. Most recently, he has garnered much attention for publishing 'The Secrets of Hong Gildong'.

VOLUME END SPECIAL INTERVIEW

'SHIN ANGYO ONSHI' IS A SERIES INSPIRED BY KOREAN CLASSICAL LITERATURE. TO COMMEMORATE THE PUBLICATION OF ITS 10TH VOLUME, WE HAVE INVITED THE FAMOUS KOREAN CLASSICAL LITERATURE EXPERT, PROFESSOR SOL SONG-GYONG, TO DISCUSS KOREAN LITERATURE WITH YOUN IN-WAN.



Youn In-Wan

尹仁完

Born in 1976
After graduating from high school, he immediately wanted to become a famous manga author. When he and Yang Kyung-Il first met, they found they were very compatible. After he published his debut piece 'Déjà Vu' a one-shot, the two of them began working together. Their first series was 'The Island' which was very popular in Korea. In 2001, they began this on-going series.

There are multiple endings to 'The Legend of Chun Hyang'?

Youn: I'm pleased to meet you. This discussion today makes me very nervous. I didn't expect to be discussing my work with a professor of literature, or that the professor would be the highest authority on classic Korean literature, Professor Sol. Frankly, if you had declined the invitation, it wouldn't have been all that shocking to me. (sweats)

Sol: Ha ha ha, certainly ordinary people might find college professors very unapproachable. If it would make you feel more comfortable, simply treat me as you would an elderly neighbor in your apartment complex. (laughs)

Youn: I think there is nothing I can do about being nervous. After all, as someone who freely modifies Korean classics to suit my story, when I am face to face with such an authority on those classics, I can't help but feel that I have to somehow atone for my crimes.

Sol: When I received the invitation to this discussion, I asked my students if they knew of a manga series by the name of 'Shin Angyo Onshi'. It surprised me when everyone said the series was very interesting. They even praised it as a series that completely rejects a traditional interpretation of Korean classical literature. Actually, one of the reasons I accepted the invitation was because of my students. I really wanted to see what kind of person was behind the manga that captivated them so much.

Youn: Thank you for the compliments. (sweats) Since we don't have much time, let's dive into the questions. Professor Sol, in a book published many years ago, you hypothesized that Mong Ryong in 'The Legend of Chun Hyang' was a real person. Most recently, you stated that Hong Gildong of 'The Legend of Hong Gildong' was also a real person. Could you tell us what research methods you used to reach those conclusions?

Sol: The process of figuring out the origins of ancient literature is similar to the process a paleontologist uses to dig for dinosaur fossils. I'm also like a detective trying to capture a criminal, pouring my heart into investigating the evidence. Figuring out the author of 'The Legend of Chun Hyang' is a product of 30 years of work, step by step, crisscrossing the country, ever so slowly tracking down the clues. It's important to understand that for the relevant time period, there was very little primary evidence to use. Instead, I resorted to using secondary sources to conduct my research.

Youn: It took you 30 years?!

Sol: In Korean classical literature, there are many similar pearls lost in the sea of time. So many of these stories that Koreans believe to be entirely myths and legends may in fact be hiding secret truths in every nook and cranny.

Youn: I didn't know you were doing such painstaking research. Concerning 'The Legend of Chun Hyang', the problem is that most people believe it is a work of fiction. It's still unclear when it originated, right?

Sol: A lot of people believe 'The Legend of Chun Hyang' came from Korean theater, but that is incorrect. It was actually a novel with a character modeled after a real person. I can even tell you the original author.

Youn: Huh? You've already uncovered the author of 'The Legend of Chun Hyang'?

Sol: The original author was Cho Kyong Nam, the general of the volunteer army during the middle era of the Joseon Dynasty. If you carefully read 'The Legend of Chun Hyang' you will notice that at the climax of the story, Mong Ryong, disguised as a wanderer, angrily berates the corrupt officials, "You people are rotten to the core!" But of course that was a novel; such a scene couldn't have possibly happened in that day and age. Even if they were corrupt officials, their power would have been something to be reckoned with. To yell such damning accusations to their faces and get away with it, logically, should have been an impossible feat. But in the volunteer army the prevailing attitude was to disregard a person's rank, status, and personal background. And this author, Cho Kyong Nam, was the leader of such an army. He must have been a very coarse person! But on the other hand, he was cultured enough to write 'The Legend of Chun Hyang' for one of his own disciples.

Youn: He wrote 'The Legend of Chun Hyang' for his disciple?

Sol: Right. He had a disciple named Seong Il Song. Il-Song was extremely bright. He was selected to be an Angyo Onshi three times when everyone thought just being granted the honor once was impressive. Furthermore, he twice traveled around Honam province, meting out justice for oppressed commoners. He is the hero the main character of 'The Legend of Chun Hyang'. Mong Ryong, was modeled after Mong Ryong in the 'Legend' of Chun Hyang' was the son of the prefect of Namwon, and that matches Il-Song perfectly. And just like Mong Ryong, he also went to Namwon in Honam to do the work of an Angyo Onshi. He would fit into the character of Mong Ryong perfectly.

Youn: Ahh, so that's how it was!!! I never would have thought Mong Ryong was modeled after a real individual. It really gets me excited. Then, is Chun Hyang modeled after anyone real?

Sol: I am sorry to disappoint you, but Chun Hyang is a 100% fictitious character. Il Song was actually a very capable Angyo Onshi, and he devoted his life to protecting the common people. It was for this disciple that Kyong Nam began to write the novel. But in order to draw in readers, he romanticized it into a love story, and in the process of making it a love story, Chun Hyang enters into the story. Therefore, we can say that Chun Hyang is an entirely fictional character.

Youn: As an author, I can understand his intentions. If that's the case, then in 'The Legend of Chun Hyang', everyone but Mong Ryong is made up, right? If only the beautiful Chun Hyang were real... It's such a shame. (laughs)

Sol: Because Chun Hyang is a made-up character, in many editions, the details of her background are different. In some editions, she is the daughter of a prostitute, in some editions, she herself was a prostitute, and in some editions, she was ugly. Because she isn't based on a real person like Mong Ryong, the author could change her however he wanted to.

Youn: Frankly, I don't know of any other famous novel with as many different versions as 'The Legend of Chun Hyang' especially the endings. In the first volume of 'Shin Angyo Onshi' I wrote that 'The Legend of Chun Hyang' has an unhappy ending. But later, when I found more information about it, I discovered that there were many, many different endings, and I couldn't figure out which ending was the original. (laughs) I bet our readers are wondering about the real ending, as am I.

Sol: First of all, Chun Hyang wasn't the main character of 'The Legend of Chun Hyang'. Rather, Mong Ryong was the main character of the Angyo Onshi novel. If you think about that, 'The New Legend of Chun Hyang' in 'Shin Angyo Onshi' isn't all that bastardized. (laughs) Of course, there are endings where Mong Ryong and Chun Hyang get married and live happily ever after. Then, in Haedong Yong Sa, a heartbroken Chun Hyang commits suicide. If you really wanted me to pick which one was the original, I would choose a happy ending. But from a historian's perspective, I would point out that the daughter of a prostitute couldn't have possibly married an Angyo Onshi. In that day and age, such a thing would have been taboo.

Youn: Then why do you think that the original author wrote a happy ending? When I consider the story's setting and background, it seems quite unlikely to me.

Sol: The 'Legend of Chun Hyang' was a work of fiction, and please don't forget that it was a novel written by a teacher to praise his student's work as an Angyo Onshi. Could such a novel possibly have a tragic ending? Just this fact alone convinces me otherwise. (laughs)

Youn: Right! I am an author, too. Why didn't I think of that? (laughs)

Sol: Actually, I am rather interested in the parts you changed.

Youn: Really? What do you mean by that?

Sol: Frankly, after reading 'Shin Angyo Onshi' I first thought, 'If I ever get to meet this author, I am going to give him a good beating.'" (laughs) Even though it is a fantasy manga, sometimes its plot was just too outrageous. You fully displayed your creativity and vivid imagination, and positively speaking, the manga had a refreshingly new feel to it. But from a professor's perspective, it took quite a bit of effort for me to get used to all the modifications of familiar stories. Ha ha ha.

Youn: Just as I thought. I am truly ashamed of myself.

Sol: No, no, no, I should be the one apologizing. After reading your work, I had to think about it for about two or three days, and I discovered a very important fact. It is that, although I am a professor, my attitude towards literature had somehow become very conservative and traditionalist. Works of fiction are fundamentally fiction. They are the proud creations of respectable Pen Wielders. Although I am conducting research to uncover the truths behind many Korean classics, I haven't done so in a desire to find out every last detail, and, in the process, discover any and all unpleasant facts or skeletons in the closet. The study of literature is a science based on historical data, but it is ultimately a form of art, and one's aspirations play a very important role in the results. For example, when I investigated whether Mong Ryong and Hong Gildong were based on real individuals, I did so with a desire to reveal to people the excitement in Korean literature. Whereas, Youn-san, you have already taken up that endeavor and introduced Korean literature to Japanese readers. I really think you are doing a wonderful job.

Youn: Thank you for the compliment (sweats) It makes me really happy to be complimented by such a noteworthy individual like yourself Actually, when I was planning the 'Shin Angyo Onshi' series, I was very troubled and uneasy To publish a manga series based on Korean literature in a foreign country Just deciding on the proper structure for incorporating Korean literature was difficult to do My main audience was going to be Japanese readers If I included too many details about Korean literature, I didn't know if they would be overwhelmed and find the manga too difficult to read In the end, I decided to use Korean classics as the basic topic for the story arcs I would leave the rest of the details for the readers to discover for themselves With this structure, I thought, " After reading 'The New Legend of Chun Hyang', maybe some readers will find Korean literature interesting and will follow up by reading the original novel But if they won't, then it still won't hurt "

Sol: What a carefully thought out decision (laughs)

Youn: It was. Although at times, I was merely borrowing names from classics for my characters, I always tried to preserve the original dispositions of the characters for example, the very direct and honest nature of Chun Hyang In the manga, she shows this part of her in the way she acts as Sando I gave other characters such as Heo Jun in Mandrake a very Hippocratic spirit I admit my work isn t very polished but from now on I will be more diligent I hope to reincarnate heroes from the long history of Korea for readers to enjoy

The real Hong Gildong crossed the eastern sea and went to Okinawa?

Sol: Speaking of which, Hong Gildong was also one of the characters you wrote about After reading The Legend of Hong Gildong in this manga, I was really shocked

Youn: Why is that?

Sol: Because the fate of the real Hong Gildong and that of the Hong Gildong in Shin Angyo Onshi' are the same

Youn: Is that so? I didn t know that at all

Sol: The Hong Gildong in The Legend of Hong Gildong was a character based on a real person Actually the author Heo Gyun, was famous for basing his main characters on real individuals but it was said that 'The Legend of Hong Gildong' alone was completely fabricated I was suspicious of this, and began my investigations into its origins It turned out just as I thought I discovered evidence that Hong Gildong was based on a chivalrous thief who lived in the Joseon Era (circa 1500 A D) and that, until the day he died in battle, he was still fighting for the welfare of common people

Youn: Hong Gildong died in battle? Didn t the novel say he later went to another country called Yuldo Kingdom and lived out his life peacefully while governing the country according to egalitarian ideals?

Sol: Hong Gildong was a chivalrous thief, but the Joseon government saw him only as a common criminal That s why the king gave the order for his capture He fled from Korea to a third country That country that was then called Yuldo is now present day Okinawa. In the folk history of Okinawa, there are records of Hong Gildong s activities He changed his name to Oyake Akahachi Hong Gawara (meaning The People s Representative King Hong) and resumed his activities as a chivalrous thief However just as he was treated as a common thief in Korea, he was again treated that way in Japan It s rumored he perished while battling with the army of the government of Yuldo

Youn: Wow! I m speechless

Sol: That is why I am so very interested in the way Hong Gildong and Munsn fought in Shin Angyo Onshi' It made me feel it was based on the real Hong Gildong' Maybe that s exaggerating a bit, but I did get a feel for your creative spirit Manga after all is manga and in fiction anything and everything is possible In addition I feel this kind of fiction is even more brilliant if it holds bits of truth at its core I mean I approach my research with this conviction If we can help Korean classics take on a notion of truth I believe the study of Korean literature will become more attractive and maybe even circulate around the world Japan has already used this sort of method to rediscover lost or forgotten pieces of ancient literature From this, they carved out a unique national culture and identity that now has international recognition I believe Korea needs to do the same kind of work But of course, I will work hard on my research so as not to lose to the Japanese

Youn: I'm glad you made such a wonderful suggestion It also makes me more at ease about today s interview This last question is mine Could you tell me do you like manga?

Sol: Ha ha ha It s difficult to read much manga at my age But I really do love them To tell you the truth when I was young, I read lots of manga And even now I am making friends with manga authors Actually because of the kind of research I do, I am often considered a strange person Could it be that the reason I have such insatiable curiosity is because I read so much manga when I was younger? (laughs) Although I have to say it took me a long time to engage myself with this Shin Angyo Onshi I am extremely happy I hope you will continue to do your best to bring Korea to the Japanese no, to the entire world s readers.

Youn: Thank you for the encouragement I will always respect your exciting research Also having your approval will help me a great deal

Professor Sol I am very grateful to you for taking time out of your busy schedule to attend this interview

新暗行御史

第十卷

[原作] 尹仁完
[作画] 梁慶一

SUNDAY GX COMICS

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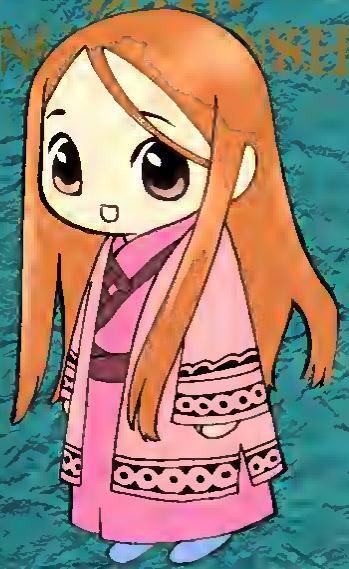
SHIN AN-HAENG-SEH



The ancient kingdom of Joshŏn.
Once upon a time,
direct emissaries of the King were sent to
[illegible]dying regions to free the people from suffering under evil.
The people called them the Amen-osa.
And today, when the kingdom has collapsed...
A single Amen-osa, named Munsu,
together with his guard Sando and his servant Banja,
wanders through the ravaged land,
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Korean to Japanese Translator Credits
Chang Jeong Cheol

Hwang

Possesses a double Two Horse Mahat. Female Angyo Onshi who can summon the Gaksi Unit

Hong Gildong

Half-sister of Kye Wol Hyang, the woman Munsu once loved. She is the leader of the Hwalbindang, a group which is trying to steal the gold reserves of Kimhae

Wen Sul

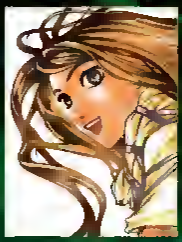
Was once Jushin's strongest swordsman and a member of the Hwarang Brigade. He is presumed to have died after his duel with Sando

Aji Tae

Munsu's greatest enemy. Although the true cause of Jushin's collapse is still a mystery, Aji Tae is believed to be the one mainly responsible.

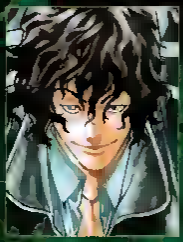
Bang Ja

Self-proclaimed Great Sorcerer. With his former Angyo Onshi dead, the wandering Bang Ja decides to dedicate his life to serving Munsu.



Sando

Original name, Chun Hyang. A powerful warrior, she becomes Munsu's bodyguard in order to fulfill her dead lover's wish.



Munsu

An Angyo Onshi and possessor of the powerful Three Horse Mahat which allows him to summon the Phantom Soldiers. Afflicted with a mysterious curse, his body deteriorates day by day

Characters

Previously

Hong Gildong, the leader of the Hwalbindang, pretended to be her half-sister, Kye Wol Hyang, a woman Munsu once deeply loved. In a deadly fight against the Hwalbindang, Munsu almost drowned. Hong Gildong fled, using the lord of Kimhae as a hostage, but was stopped by Bang Ja and the armies of Kimhae. Desperate, Hong Gildong uses the double Two Horse Mahat she took from Miss Hwang and summons the Gaksi Unit .